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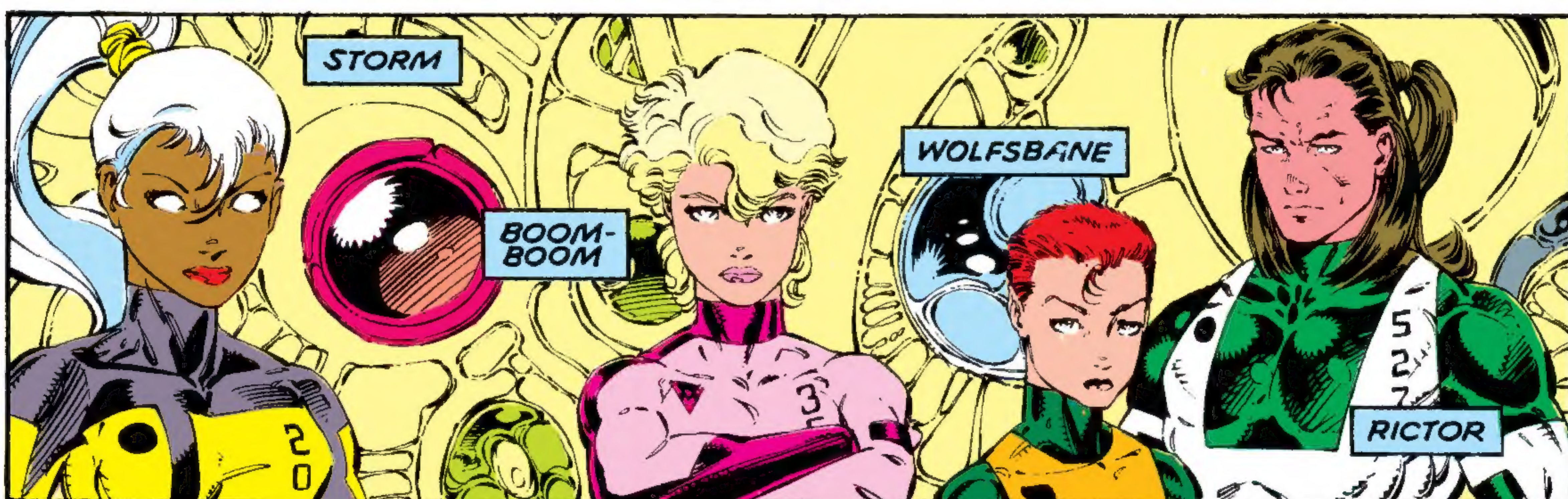
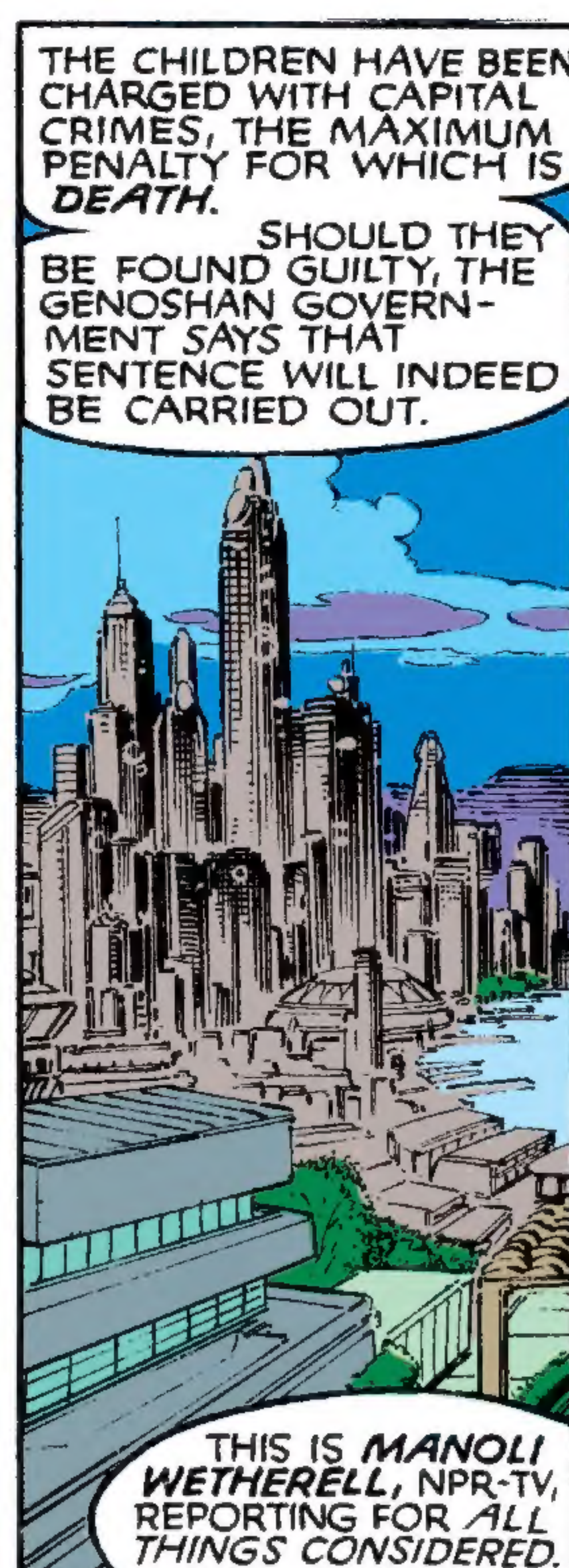
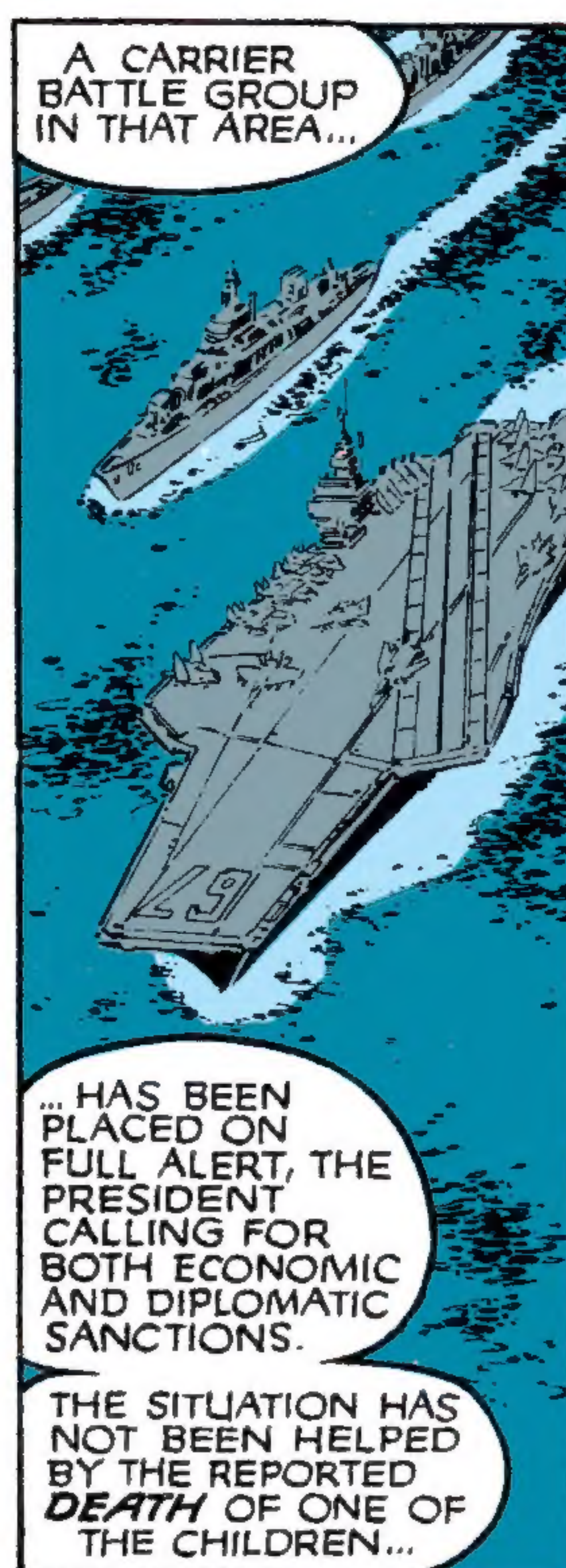
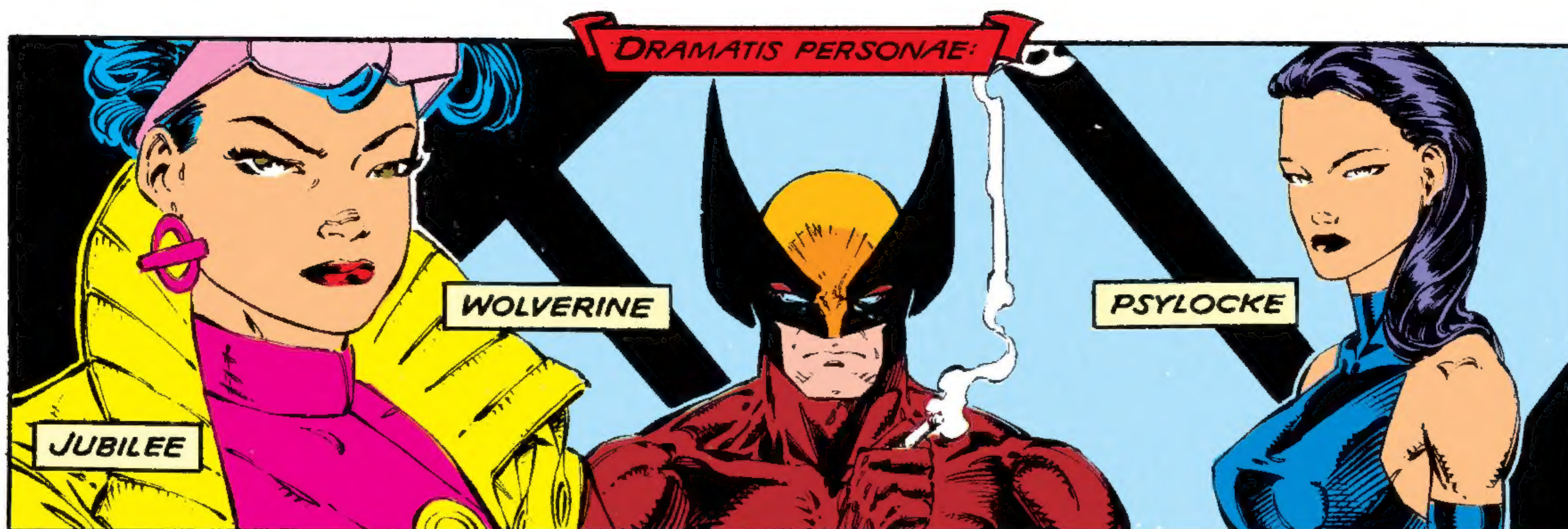
X-TINCTION AGENDA

PART 4

X-MEN



JIM LEE
WILLIAMS

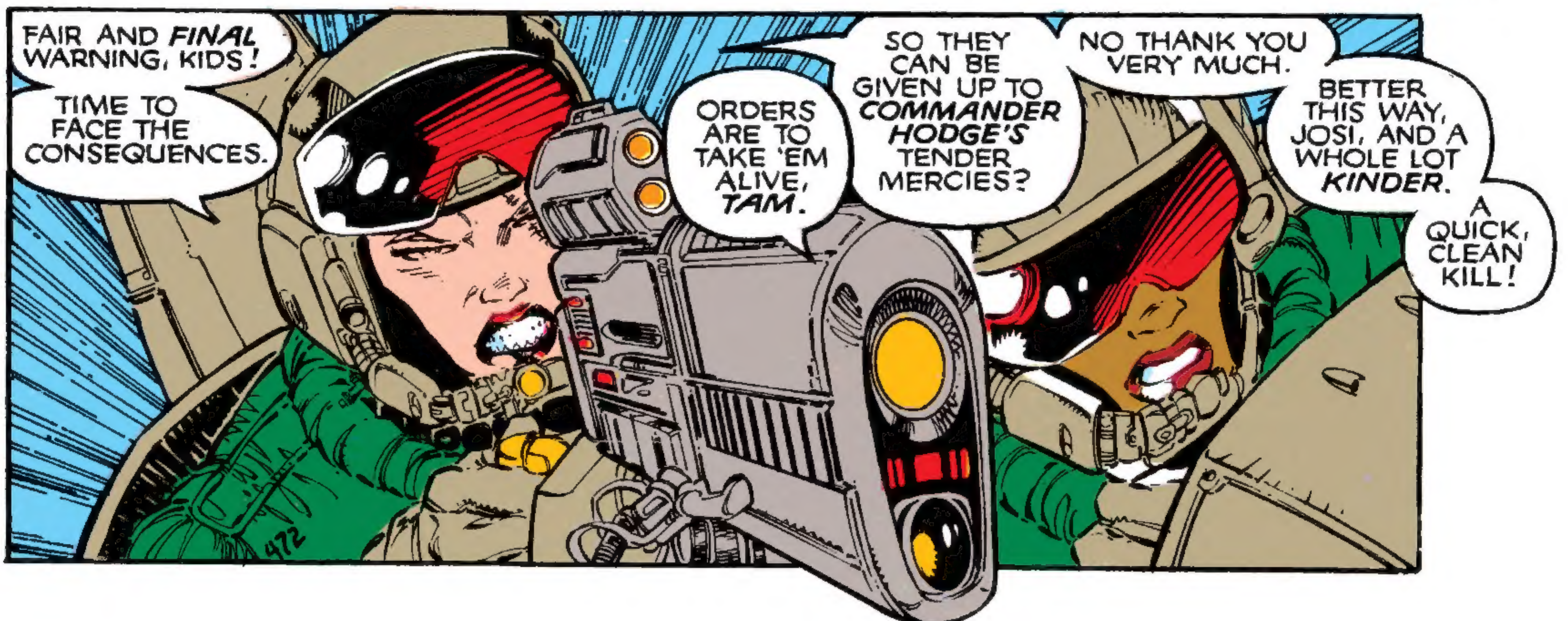
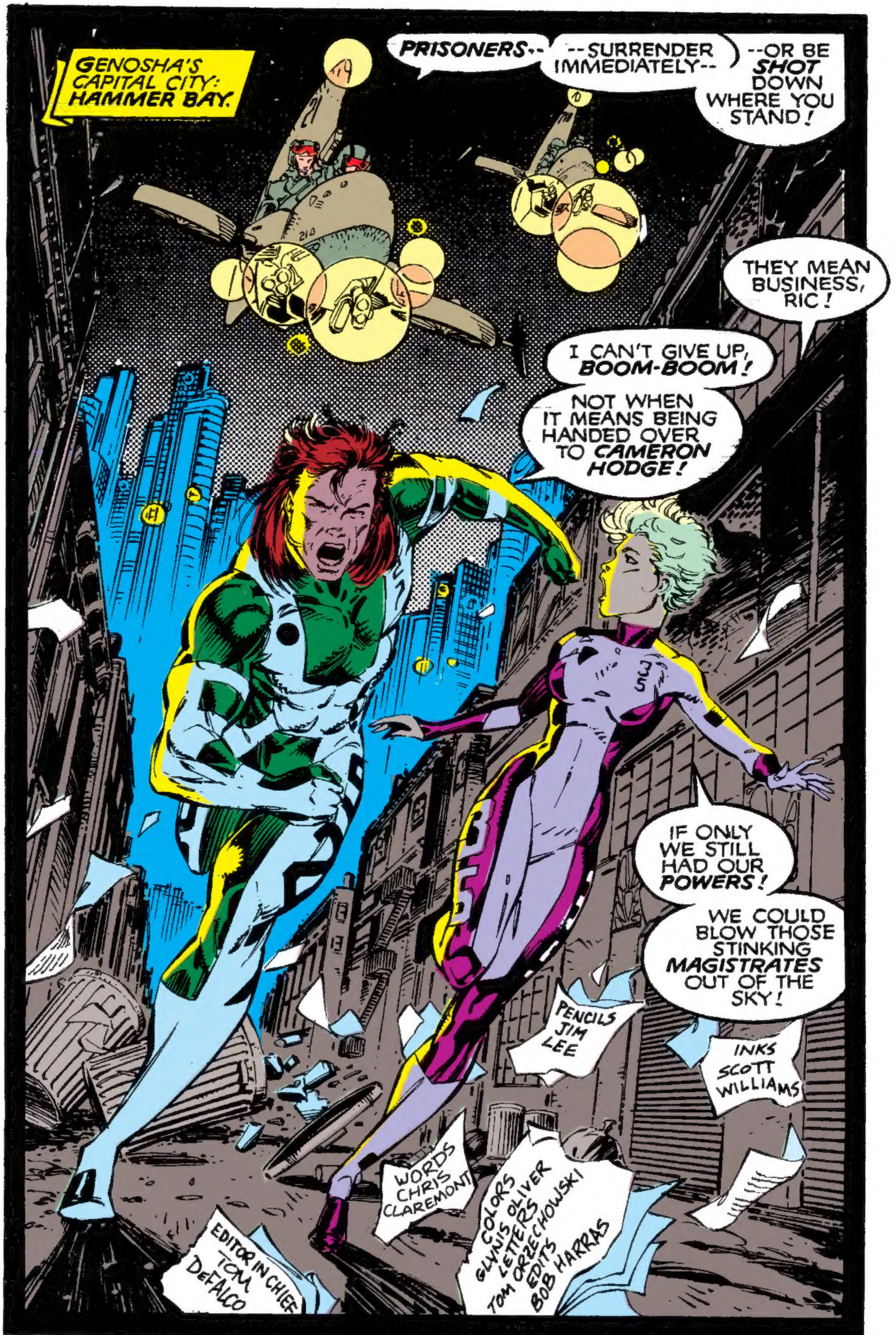


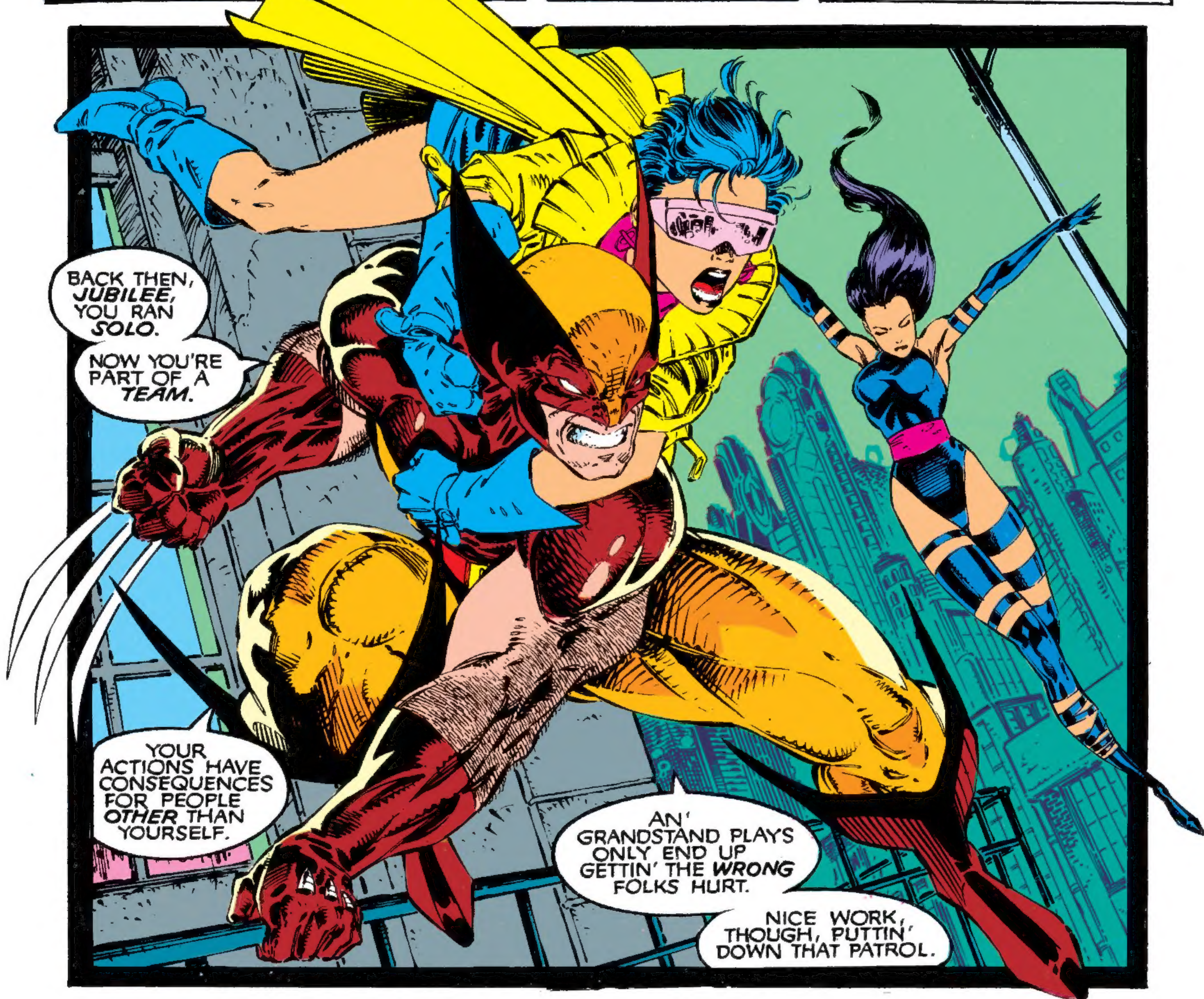
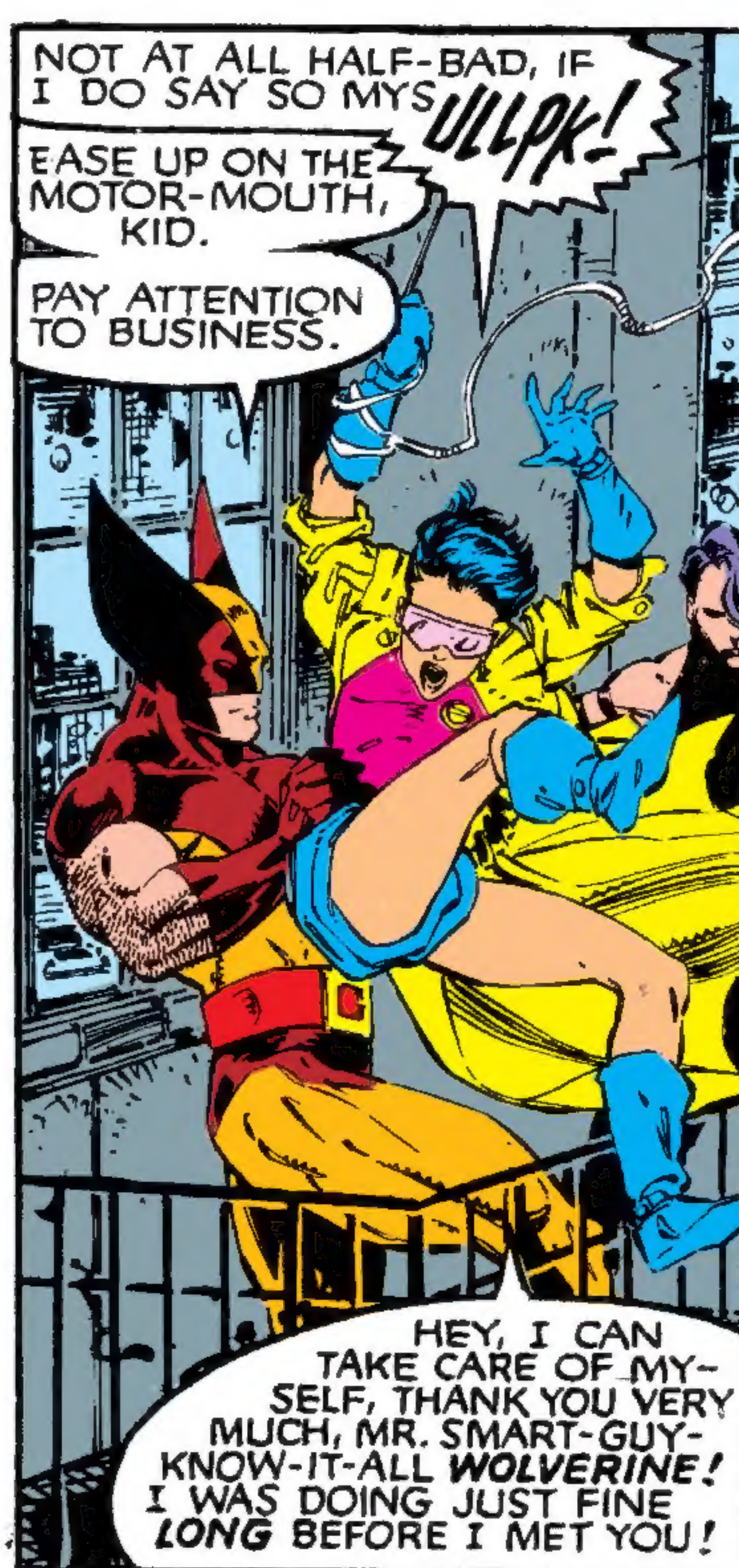
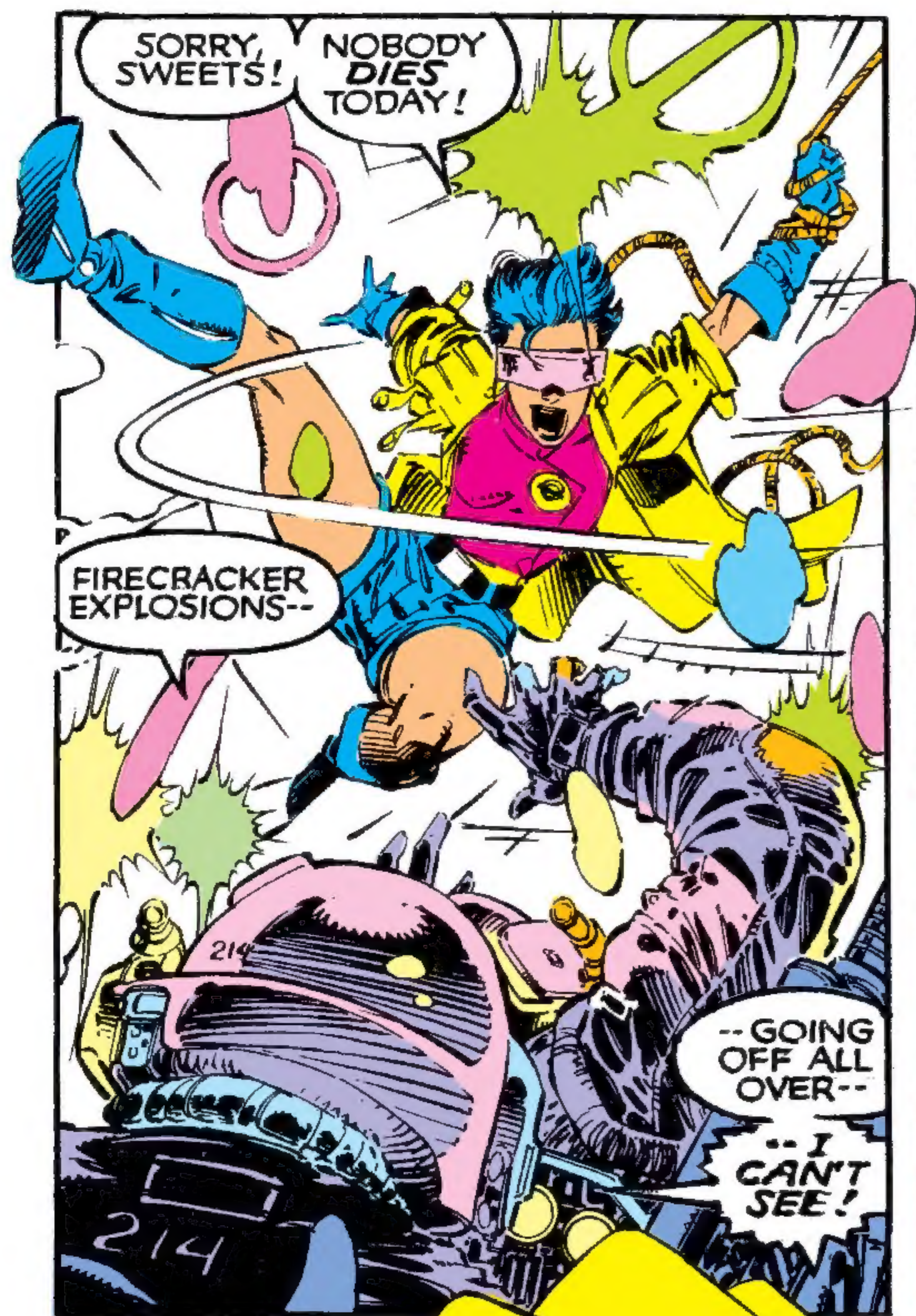
X-TINCTION AGENDA -- THE X-TEAMS' GREATEST CRISIS!

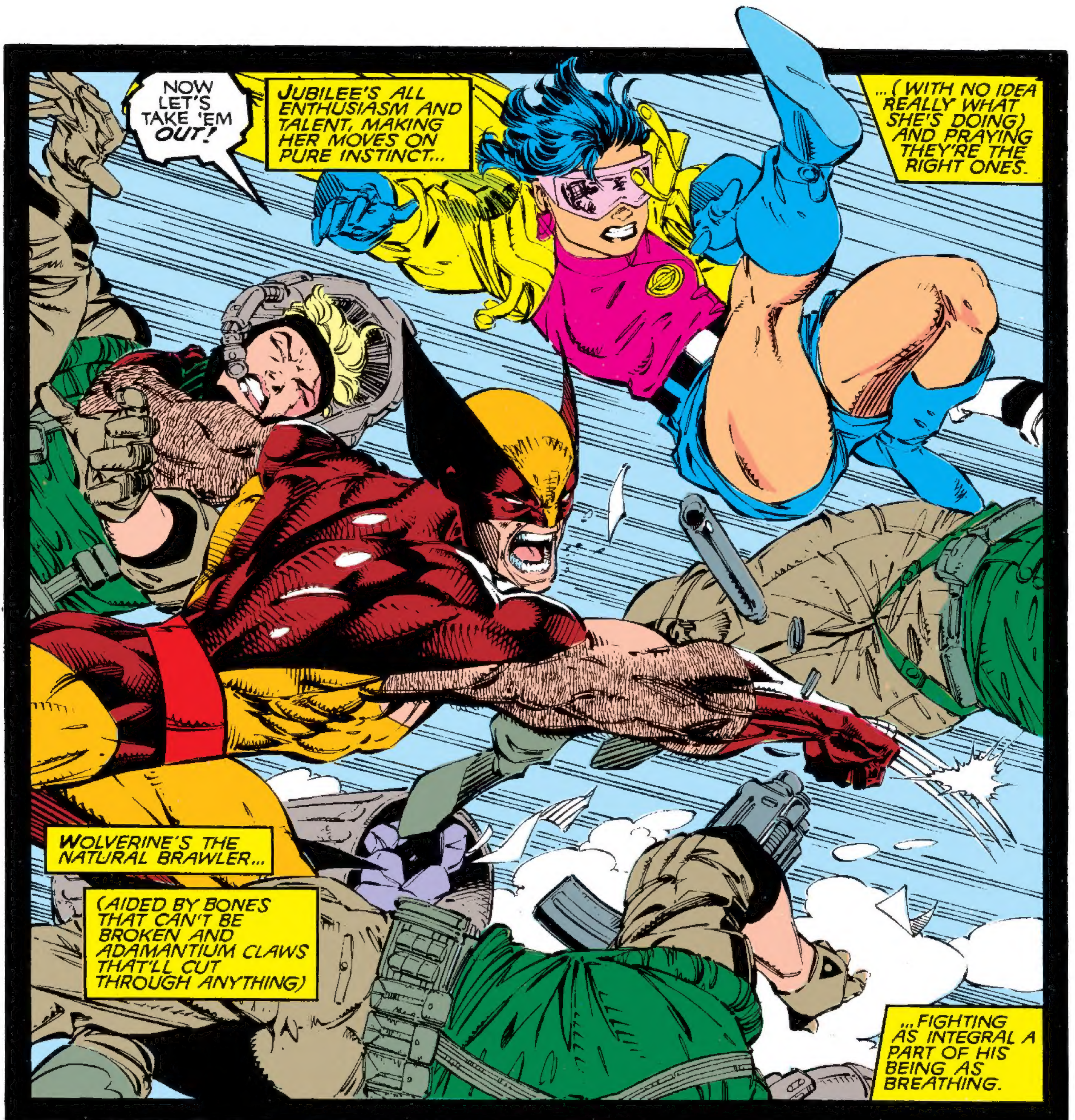
STAN LEE
PRESENTS

FLASHPOINT!

STARRING SOME
UNCANNY
X-MEN
(AND A FEW
NEW MUTANTS,
TOO!)







NOW
LET'S
TAKE 'EM
OUT!

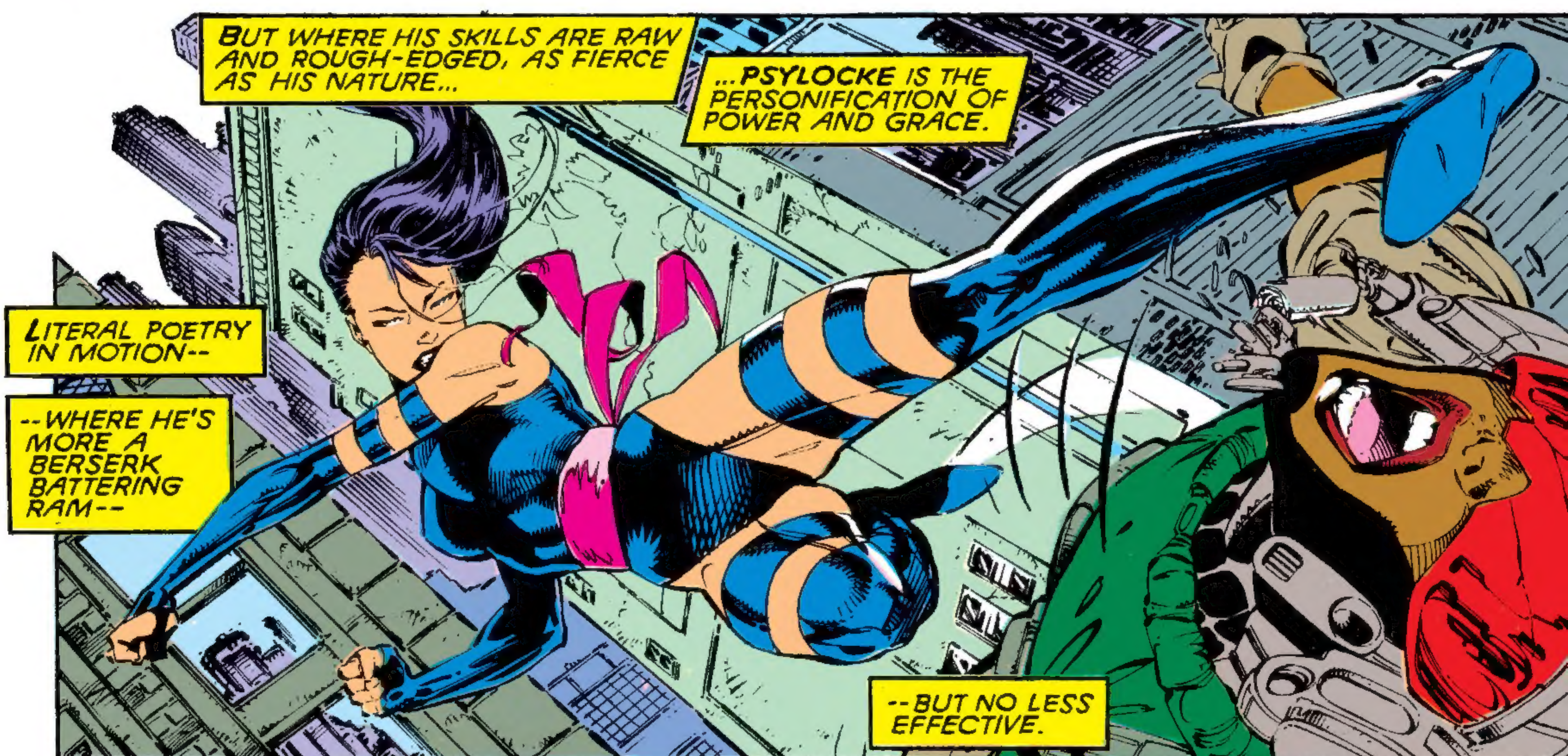
JUBILEE'S ALL
ENTHUSIASM AND
TALENT, MAKING
HER MOVES ON
PURE INSTINCT...

... (WITH NO IDEA
REALLY WHAT
SHE'S DOING)
AND PRAYING
THEY'RE THE
RIGHT ONES.

WOLVERINE'S THE
NATURAL BRAWLER...

(AIDED BY BONES
THAT CAN'T BE
BROKEN AND
ADAMANTIUM CLAWS
THAT'LL CUT
THROUGH ANYTHING)

... FIGHTING
AS INTEGRAL A
PART OF HIS
BEING AS
BREATHING.



BUT WHERE HIS SKILLS ARE RAW
AND ROUGH-EDGED, AS FIERCE
AS HIS NATURE...

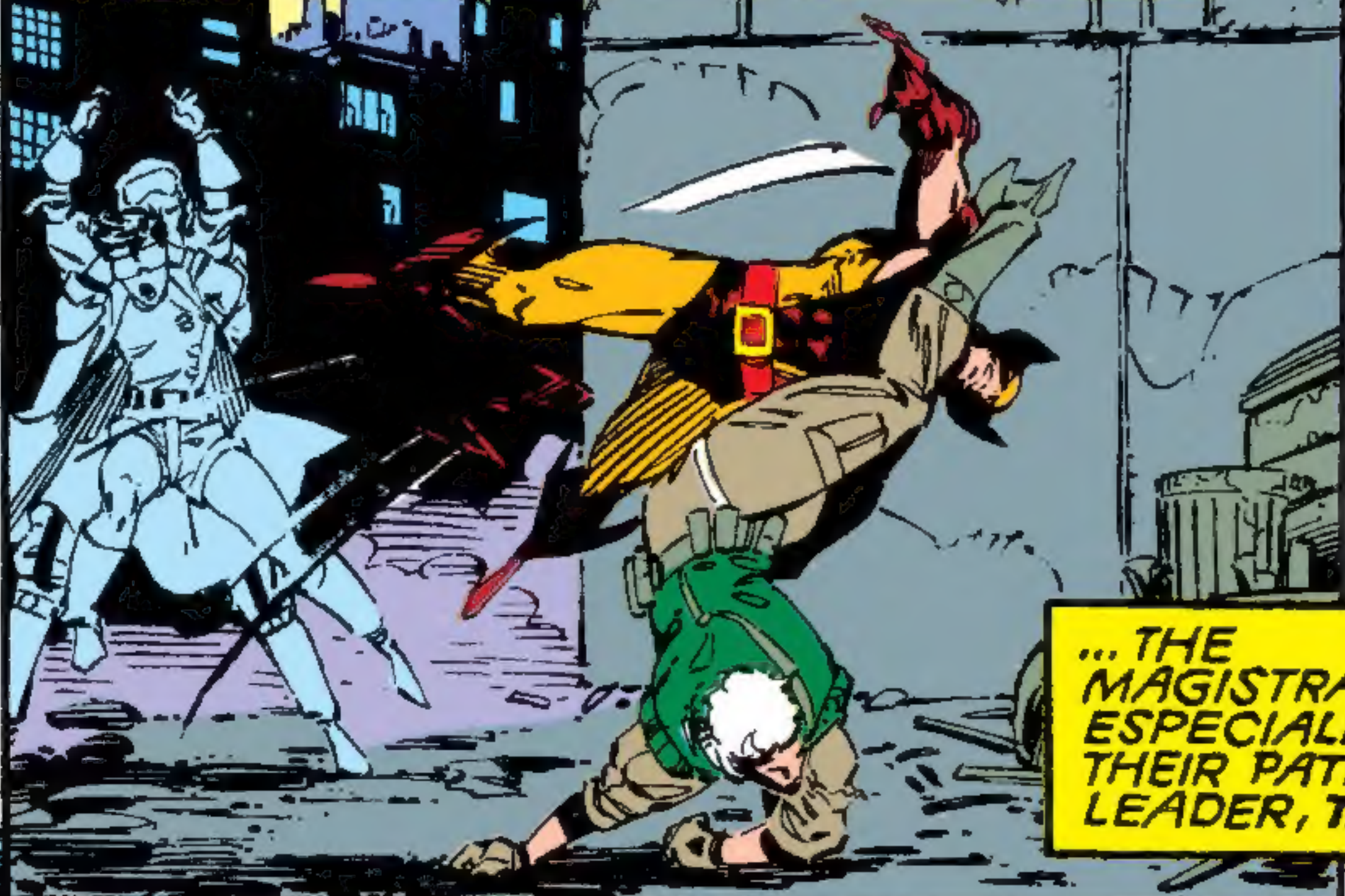
... PSYLOCKE IS THE
PERSONIFICATION OF
POWER AND GRACE.

LITERAL POETRY
IN MOTION--

--WHERE HE'S
MORE A
BERSERK
BATTERING
RAM--

-- BUT NO LESS
EFFECTIVE.

YET, FORMIDABLE AS THESE X-MEN ARE...



... THE
MAGISTRATES--
ESPECIALLY
THEIR PATROL
LEADER, TAM--

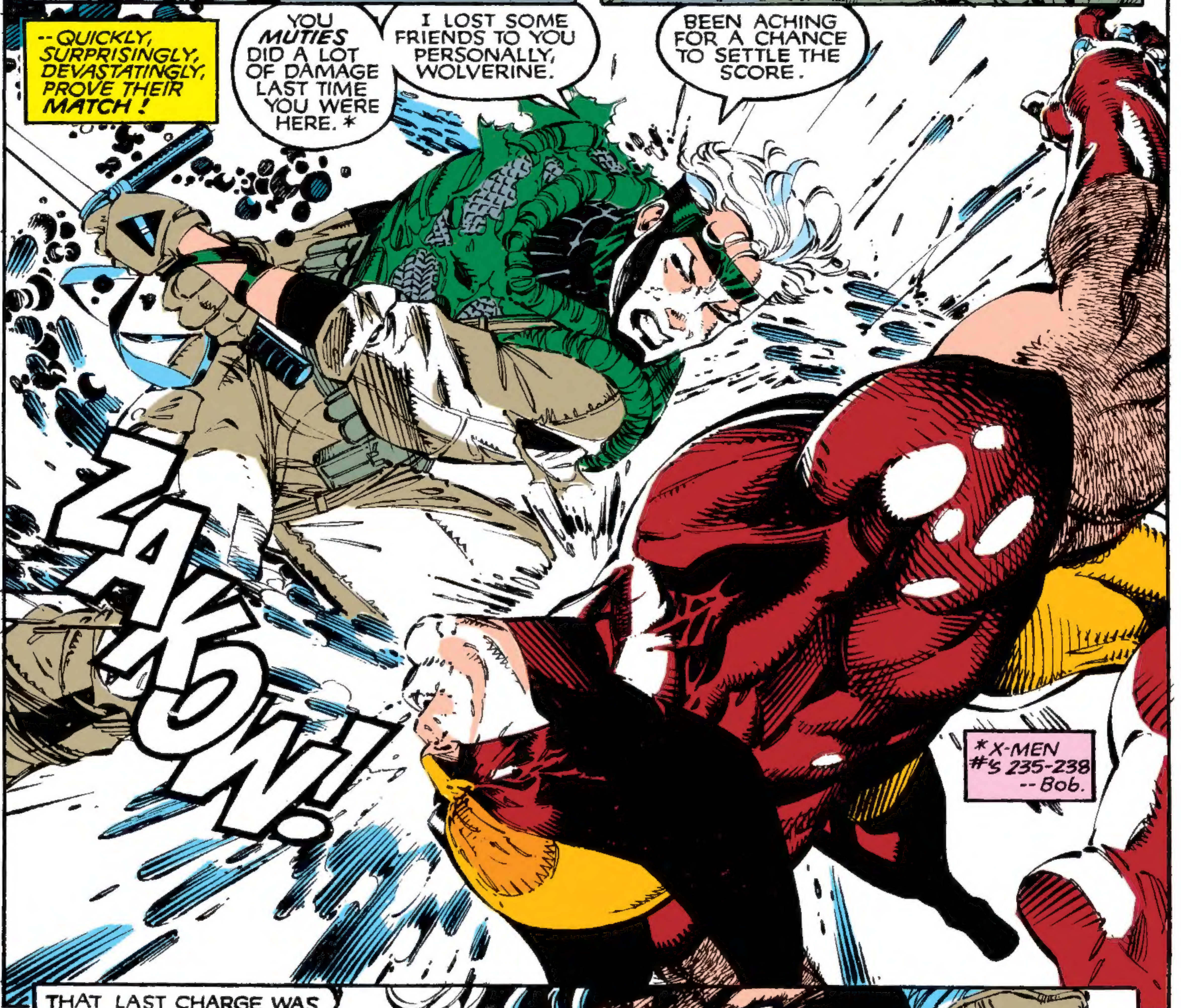


-- QUICKLY,
SURPRISINGLY,
DEVASTATINGLY,
PROVE THEIR
MATCH !

YOU
MUTIES
DID A LOT
OF DAMAGE
LAST TIME
YOU WERE
HERE. *

I LOST SOME
FRIENDS TO YOU
PERSONALLY,
WOLVERINE.

BEEN ACHING
FOR A CHANCE
TO SETTLE THE
SCORE.

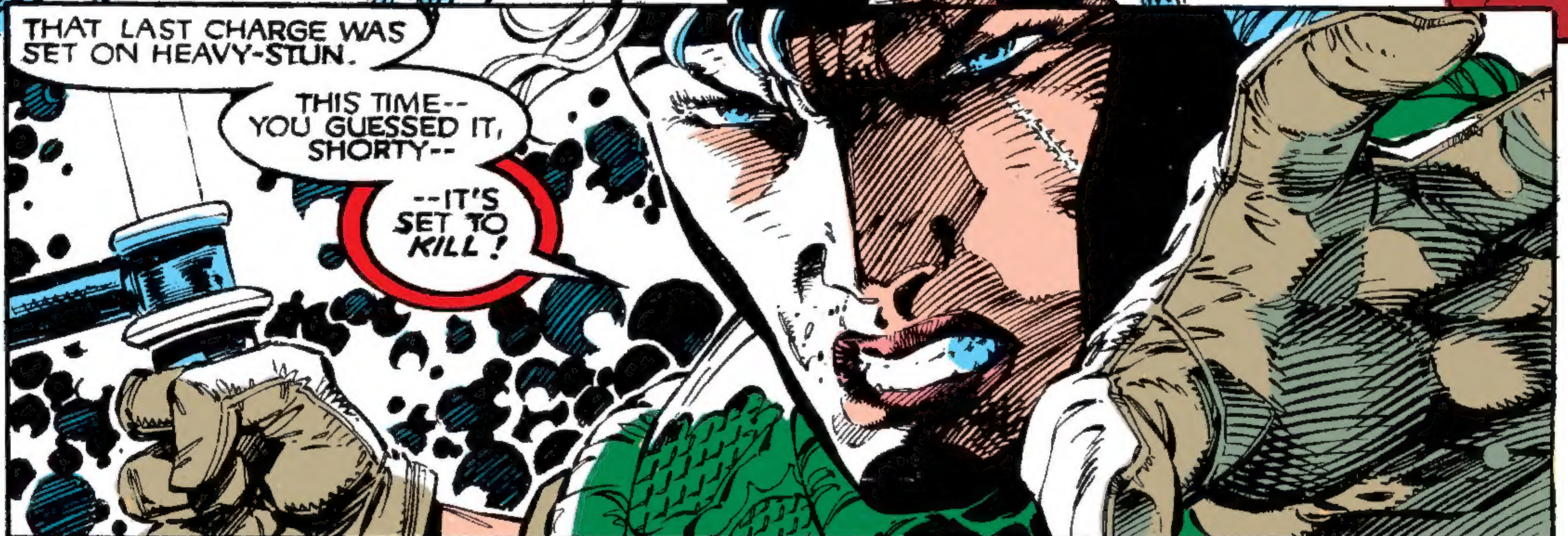


* X-MEN
#s 235-238
-- Bob.

THAT LAST CHARGE WAS
SET ON HEAVY-STUN.

THIS TIME--
YOU GUESSED IT,
SHORTY--

--IT'S
SET TO
KILL !





WEREN'T YOU LISTENING, MAGISTRATE?

AS JUBILEE SAID...

...NOBODY DIES TONIGHT!

ARRRGH!



NOT EVEN YOU.

EYEUGKGH!
PSYLOCKE, WHAT'D YOU--?!

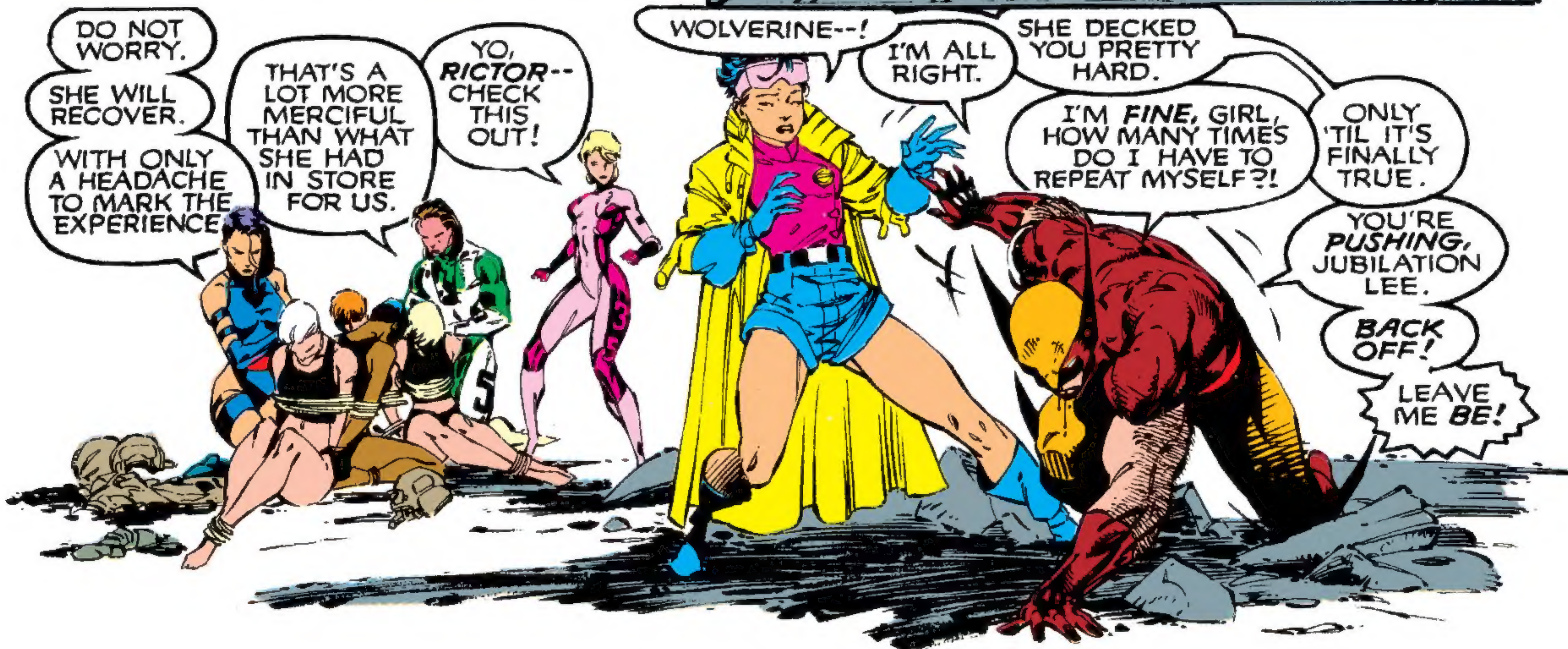
MY PSYCHIC KNIFE.

THE FOCUSED TOTALITY OF MY TELEPATHIC POWERS.

IN THIS CASE, USED TO SHORT-CIRCUIT THE MAGISTRATE'S BRAIN...

...AND REMOVE HER FROM THE FRAY.

GLXGKYL



DO NOT WORRY.

SHE WILL RECOVER.

WITH ONLY A HEADACHE TO MARK THE EXPERIENCE

THAT'S A LOT MORE MERCIFUL THAN WHAT SHE HAD IN STORE FOR US.

YO, RICTOR-- CHECK THIS OUT!

WOLVERINE--!

I'M ALL RIGHT.

SHE DECKED YOU PRETTY HARD.

I'M FINE, GIRL, HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO REPEAT MYSELF?!

ONLY 'TIL IT'S FINALLY TRUE.

YOU'RE PUSHING, JUBILATION LEE.

BACK OFF!

LEAVE ME BE!



HEY, IS HE--?!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR? HE'S FINE, OKAY!

HE DOESN'T LOOK SO...

WHADDA YOU KNOW, HOTSHOT? HE'S MY PARTNER!

HE SAVED YOUR BEE-HINDS--

--WHAT MORE D'YOU WANT?



MANOHMAN, HOW DID I EVER LET MYSELF GET TANGLED UP IN SUCH A MESS?!

WASSAMATTA, KIDDO--

--GOT NO FAITH?

I'LL SETTLE FOR SMARTS, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



I MEAN, THIS IS SO DUMB. YOU ARE IN NO SHAPE FOR THIS.

WHAT WE GOTTA DO IS FIND YOU A HIDEY-HOLE AND PUT YOU TO BED 'TIL YOU GET BETTER.

THAT'S NOT AN OPTION.

WHAT IS IT WITH THIS TOTAL MACHO JUNK? ARE YOU DESPERATE TO DIE, MAN, OR WHAT?!!

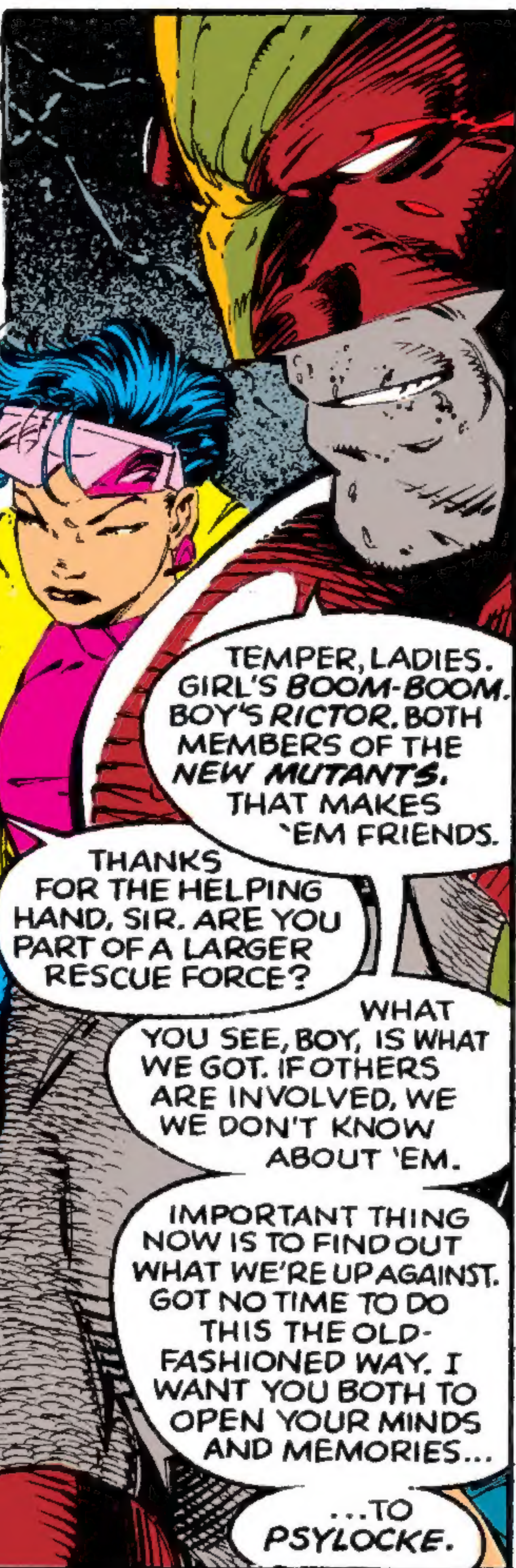
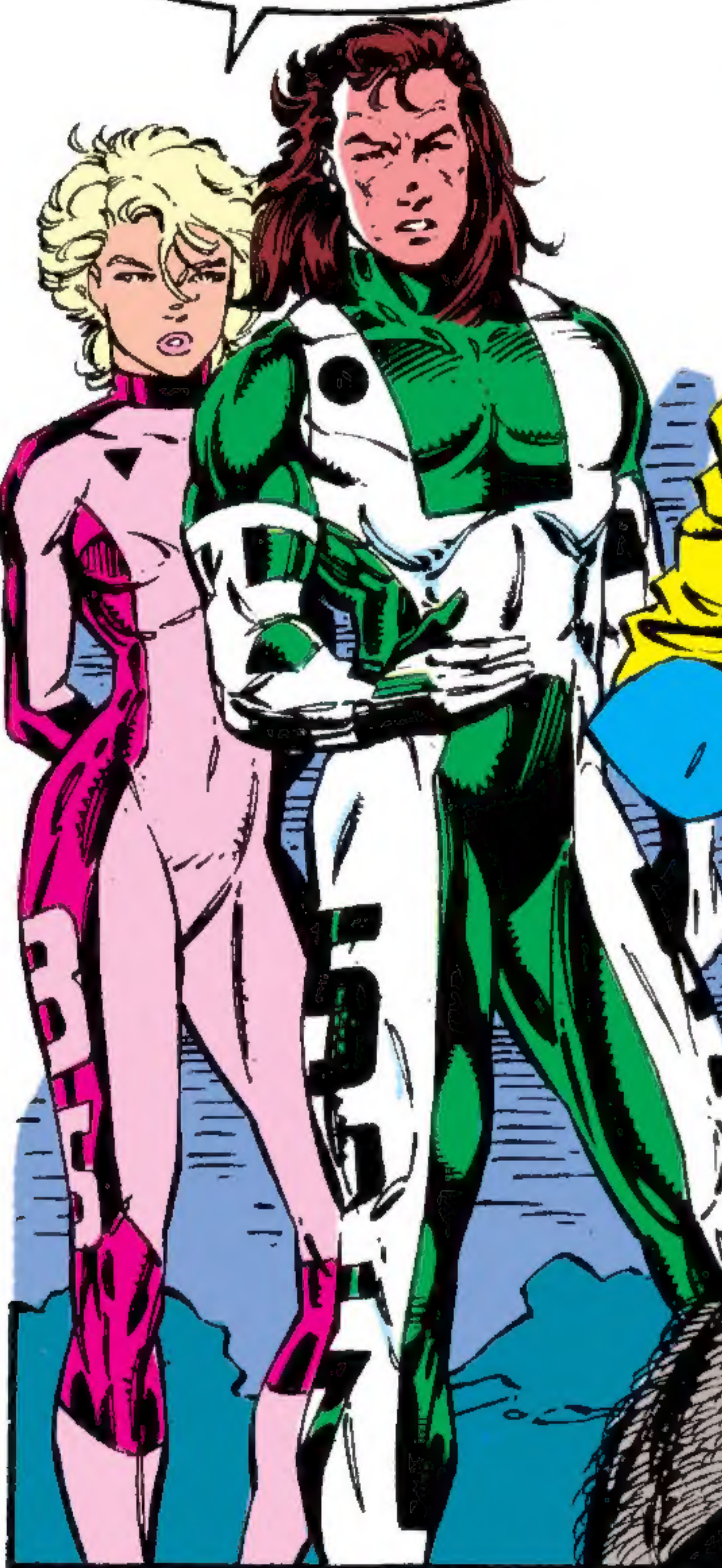
SOMETIMES, JUBILATION, THINGS HAPPEN WHETHER YOU WANT 'EM TO OR NOT. THEN IT BECOMES A MATTER OF HOW YOU CHOOSE TO GO.

ALL I'M ASKIN' IS THAT YOU RESPECT MINE.

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED BY NOW, THAT'S ASKING A LOT.

BY THE WAY, WHO ARE THESE LAMO DWEEBOIDS, ANYWAY?

WATCH THE MOUTH, FIRECRACKER, 'FORE SOMEBODY PULLS YOUR FUSE.



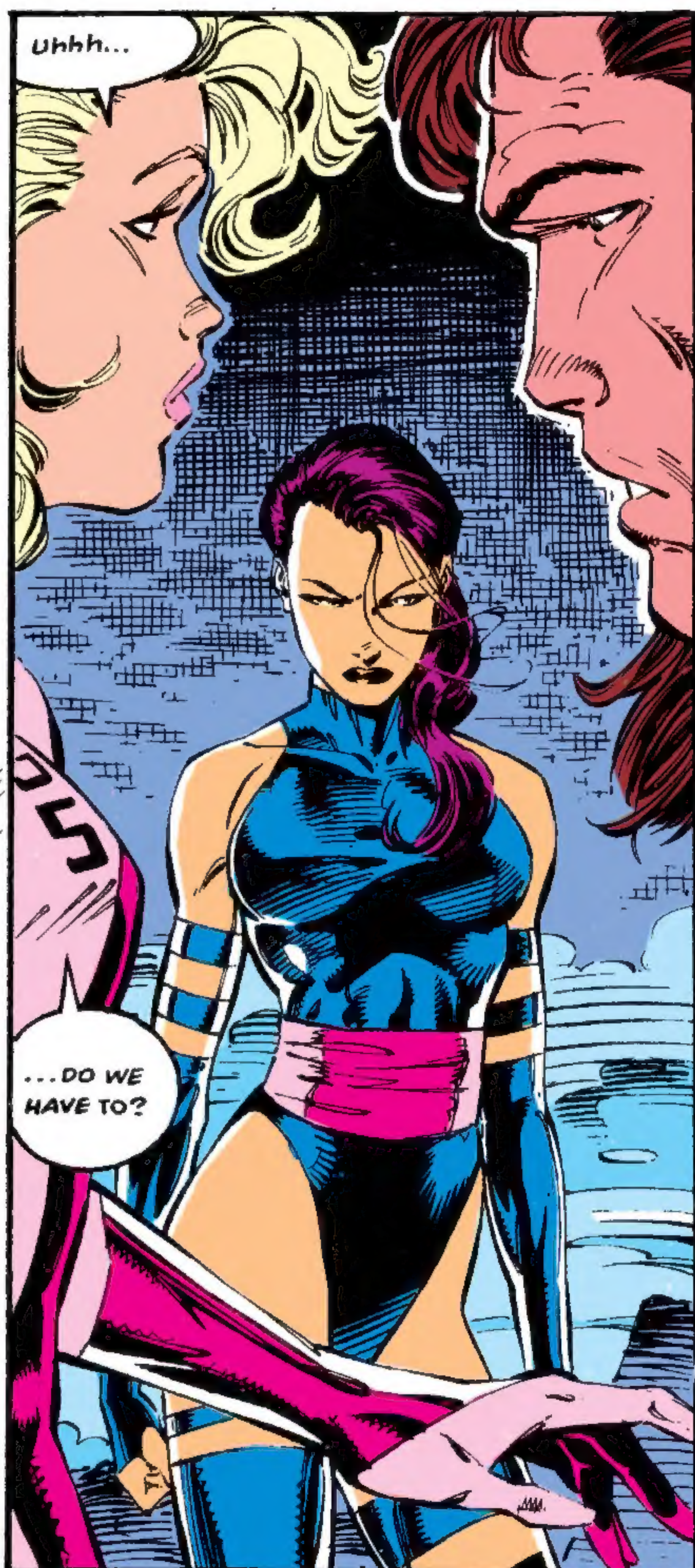
TEMPER, LADIES. GIRL'S BOOM-BOOM. BOY'S RICTOR. BOTH MEMBERS OF THE NEW MUTANTS. THAT MAKES 'EM FRIENDS.

THANKS FOR THE HELPING HAND, SIR. ARE YOU PART OF A LARGER RESCUE FORCE?

WHAT YOU SEE, BOY, IS WHAT WE GOT. IF OTHERS ARE INVOLVED, WE WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT 'EM.

IMPORTANT THING NOW IS TO FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST. GOT NO TIME TO DO THIS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY. I WANT YOU BOTH TO OPEN YOUR MINDS AND MEMORIES...

...TO PSYLOCKE.



Uhhh...

...DO WE HAVE TO?

AND ONCE MORE, THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS FLASH ACROSS THE TWO MUTANTS' MINDS'-EYE...

... BEGINNING WITH THE MAGISTRATES' ATTACK ON XAVIER'S SCHOOL, AND THEIR CAPTURE-- ALONG WITH STORM, WOLFSBANE AND WARLOCK--

-- THEIR IMPRISONMENT HERE IN GENOSHA, AFTER THE MAGISTRATE WIPEOUT HAD STRIPPED THEM OF THEIR MUTANT POWERS...

...THEIR TORTURE, AT THE HANDS OF X-FACTOR'S ARCH-ENEMY, CAMERON HODGE...

... AND FINALLY, THEIR ESCAPE, THANKS TO WARLOCK...

...WHO SEEMINGLY PAID FOR IT WITH HIS LIFE.

THEY SEPARATED. STORM AND WOLFSBANE MAY STILL REMAIN WITHIN THE MAGISTRATE CITADEL.

BUT I ALSO HAVE A PSYCHIC SENSE OF BOTH OTHER X-MEN AND THE WHOLE OF X-FACTOR ON THE ISLAND.

ALL RIIIGHT! NOW WE'LL SEE WHO KICKS WHOSE BUTT!

PSYLOCKE AND I'LL CHECK OUT THE CITADEL.

WE FIND STORM AN' RAHNEY, WE'LL BRING 'EM OUT.

JUBILEE, YOU GET THESE TWO TO SAFETY.

NO WAY! I GO WITH YOU!

WRONG.


SOMEONE WITH POWERS NEEDS TO LOOK AFTER THEM, AND YOU'RE ELECTED.

WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES!

THIS KIND OF CAPER ISN'T WON BY GRANDSTANDING, GIRL.

THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH AND THE OPPOSITION TOO DANGEROUS.

YOU WANT TO SURVIVE, YOU SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE AND DO AS YOU'RE TOLD.



I'M MANOLI WETHERELL, WITH A SPECIAL EDITION OF NPR-TV'S ALL THINGS CONSIDERED...

... TONIGHT PRESENTING A DEBATE ON THE CURRENT GENOSHAN CRISIS BETWEEN DR. DAVID MOREAU, REPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT OF GENOSHA...


... AND DR. MOIRA MacTAGGERT OF EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY, NOBEL PRIZE WINNER FOR HER WORK IN HUMAN GENETICS AND ONE OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST AUTHORITIES IN THAT FIELD.

TO YOU FIRST, DR. MOREAU, IF I MAY-- A COMMENT ABOUT YOUR PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THESE KIDNAPPED CHILDREN ARE TO BE TRIED AS TERRORISTS AND, IF FOUND GUILTY, SENTENCED TO DEATH.



IN THE FIRST PLACE, MS. WETHERELL, THESE MUTANTS ARE TERRORISTS...

...AND THEIR PUNISHMENT, ALBEIT HARSH, SIMPLY WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR UNDER OUR LAWS.

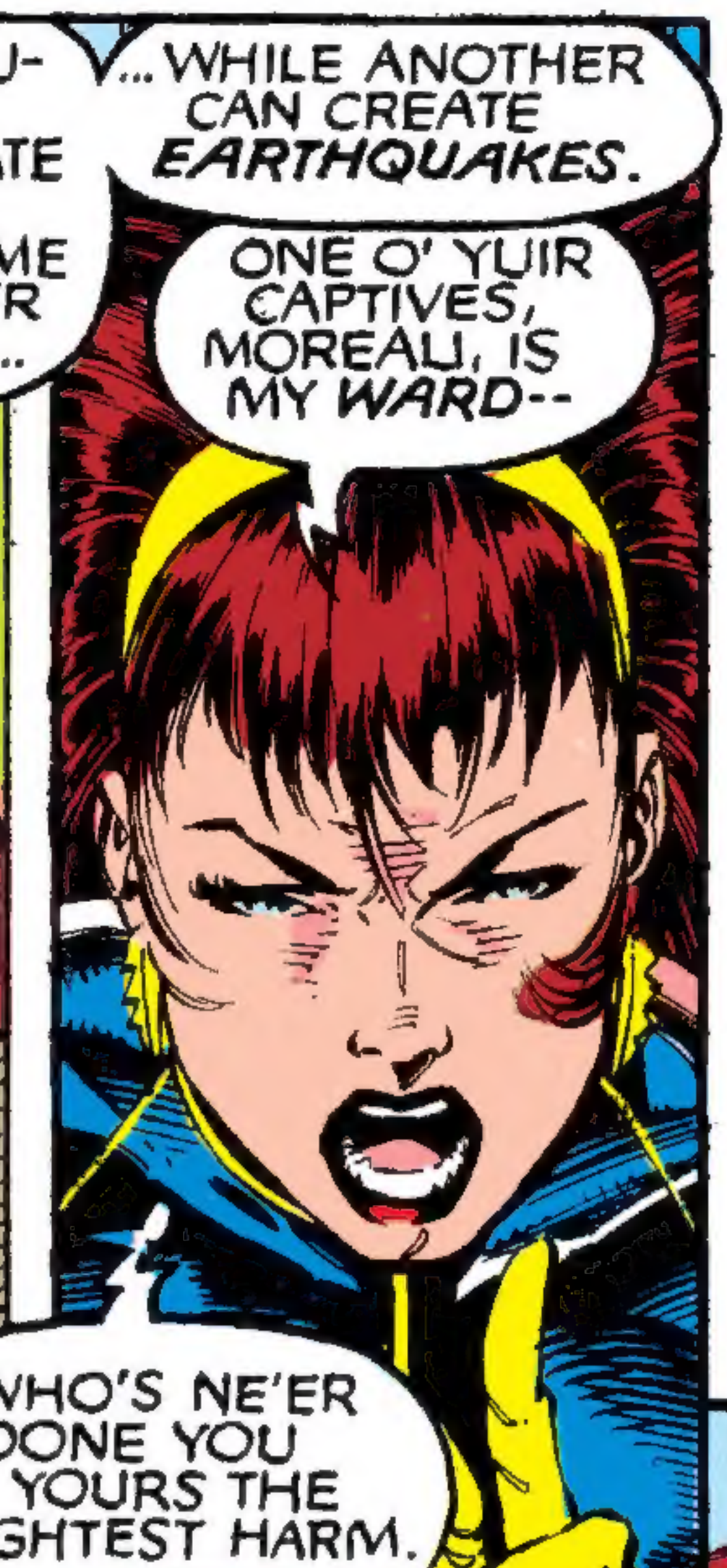


YE'RE TALKING ABOUT CHILDREN, MAN, NA' HARDENED CRIMINALS.

THAT, DOCTOR, IS A MATTER OF OPINION. CONSIDER WHAT THESE MUTANTS CAN DO:


ONE CAN MANIPULATE WEATHER PATTERNS, GENERATE STORMS OF ANY INTENSITY AT A TIME AND PLACE OF HER OWN CHOOSING...

... WHILE ANOTHER CAN CREATE EARTHQUAKES.



ONE O' YUIR CAPTIVES, MOREAU, IS MY WARD--

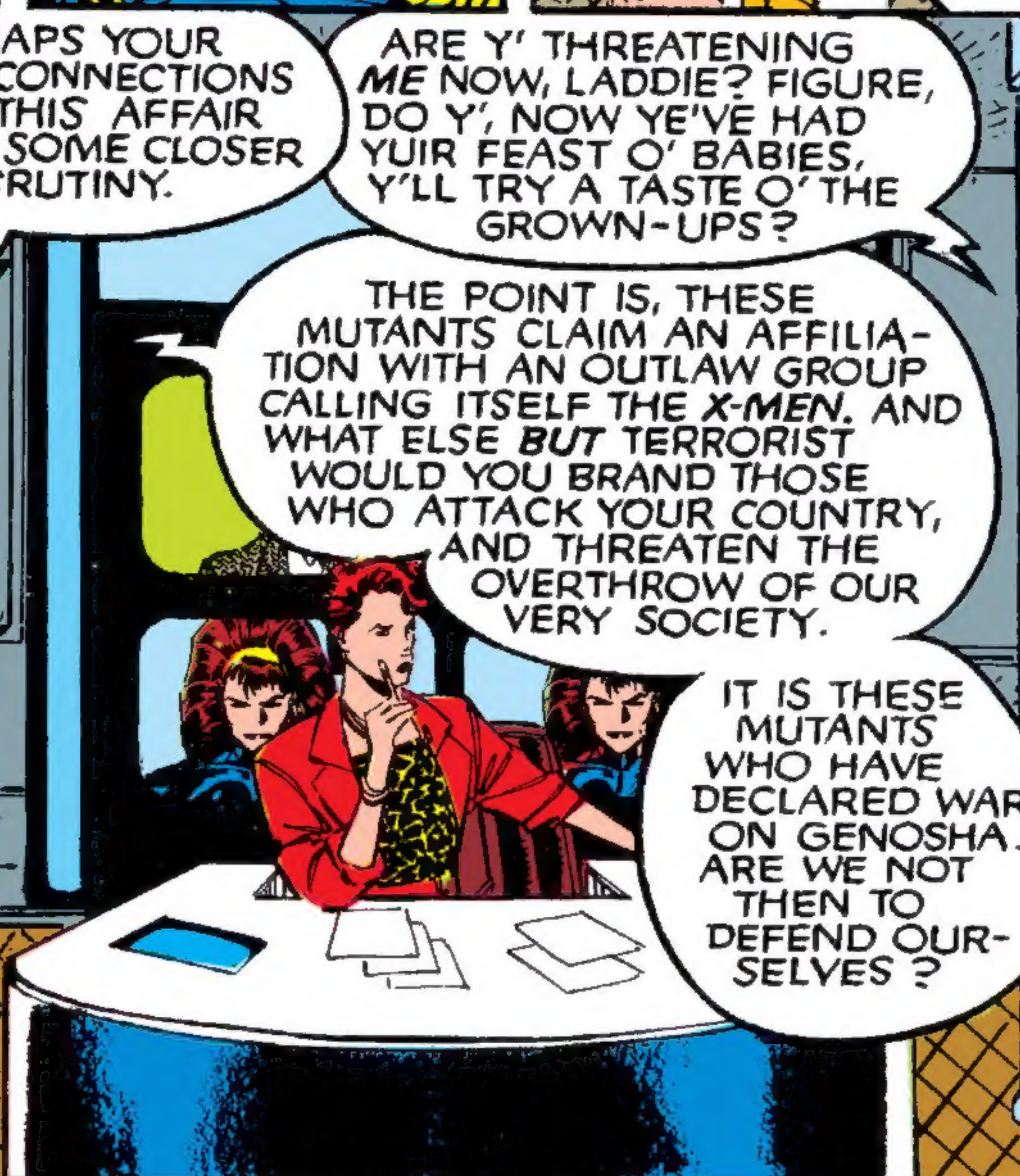
--WHO'S NE'ER DONE YOU OR YOURS THE SLIGHTEST HARM.



WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION, DOCTOR, WHAT SORT OF GUARDIAN ALLOWS HER CHARGE TO CONSORT WITH CRIMINALS?

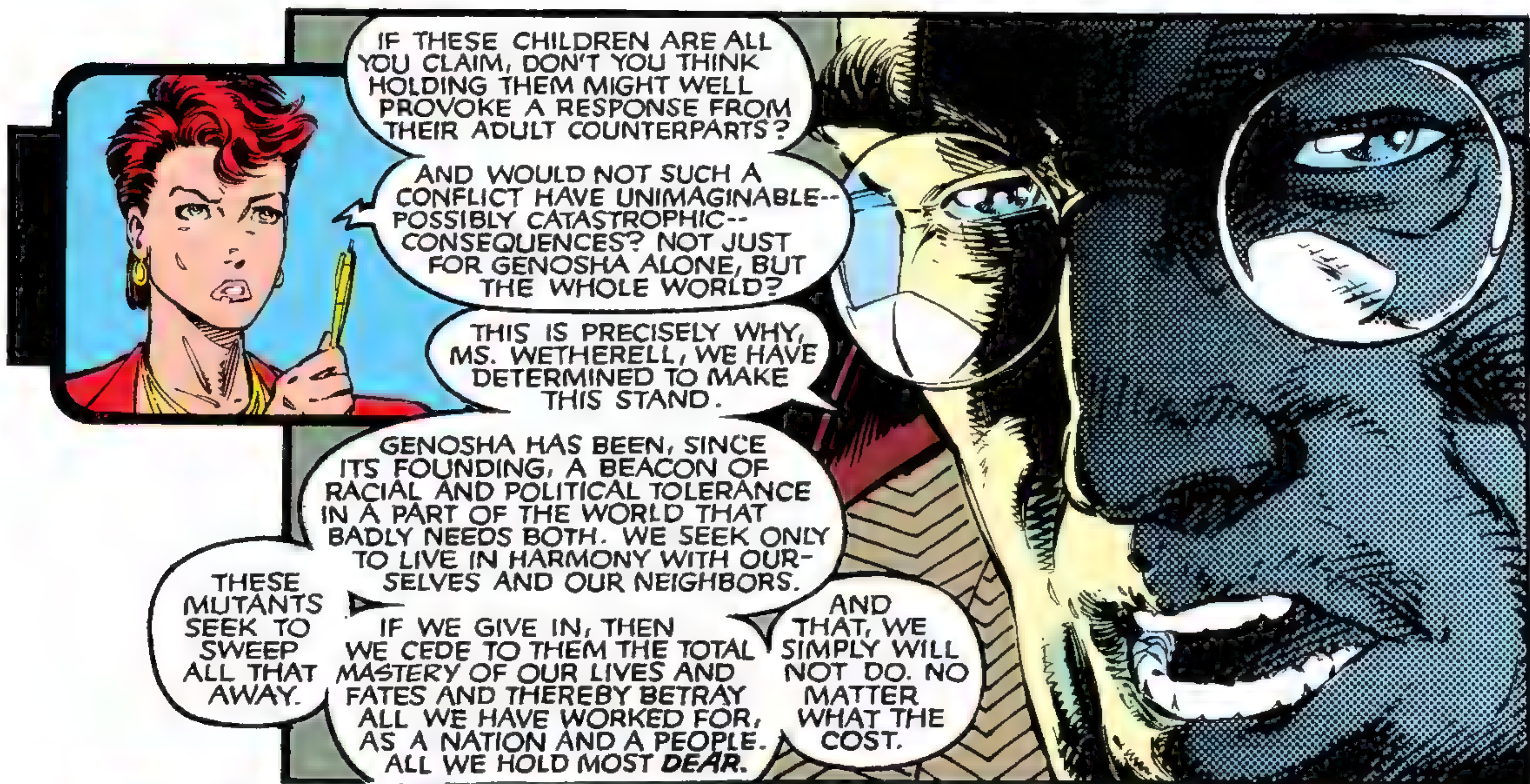
PERHAPS YOUR OWN CONNECTIONS WITH THIS AFFAIR MERIT SOME CLOSER SCRUTINY.

ARE Y' THREATENING ME NOW, LADDIE? FIGURE, DO Y', NOW YE'VE HAD YUIR FEAST O' BABIES, Y'LL TRY A TASTE O' THE GROWN-UPS?



THE POINT IS, THESE MUTANTS CLAIM AN AFFILIATION WITH AN OUTLAW GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE X-MEN, AND WHAT ELSE BUT TERRORIST WOULD YOU BRAND THOSE WHO ATTACK YOUR COUNTRY, AND THREATEN THE OVERTHROW OF OUR VERY SOCIETY.

IT IS THESE MUTANTS WHO HAVE DECLARED WAR ON GENOSHA. ARE WE NOT THEN TO DEFEND OURSELVES?



IF THESE CHILDREN ARE ALL YOU CLAIM, DON'T YOU THINK HOLDING THEM MIGHT WELL PROVOKE A RESPONSE FROM THEIR ADULT COUNTERPARTS?

AND WOULD NOT SUCH A CONFLICT HAVE UNIMAGINABLE-- POSSIBLY CATASTROPHIC-- CONSEQUENCES? NOT JUST FOR GENOSHA ALONE, BUT THE WHOLE WORLD?

THIS IS PRECISELY WHY, MS. WETHERELL, WE HAVE DETERMINED TO MAKE THIS STAND.

GENOSHA HAS BEEN, SINCE ITS FOUNDING, A BEACON OF RACIAL AND POLITICAL TOLERANCE IN A PART OF THE WORLD THAT BADLY NEEDS BOTH. WE SEEK ONLY TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBORS.

THESE MUTANTS SEEK TO SWEEP ALL THAT AWAY.

IF WE GIVE IN, THEN WE CEDE TO THEM THE TOTAL MASTERY OF OUR LIVES AND FATES AND THEREBY BETRAY ALL WE HAVE WORKED FOR, AS A NATION AND A PEOPLE. ALL WE HOLD MOST DEAR.

AND THAT, WE SIMPLY WILL NOT DO. NO MATTER WHAT THE COST.



AND... WE'RE... CLEAR!

THANK YOU, EVERYONE. THE BROADCAST IS OVER.

VERY NICE. MOST IMPRESSIVE. YOU HANDLED YOURSELF WELL.

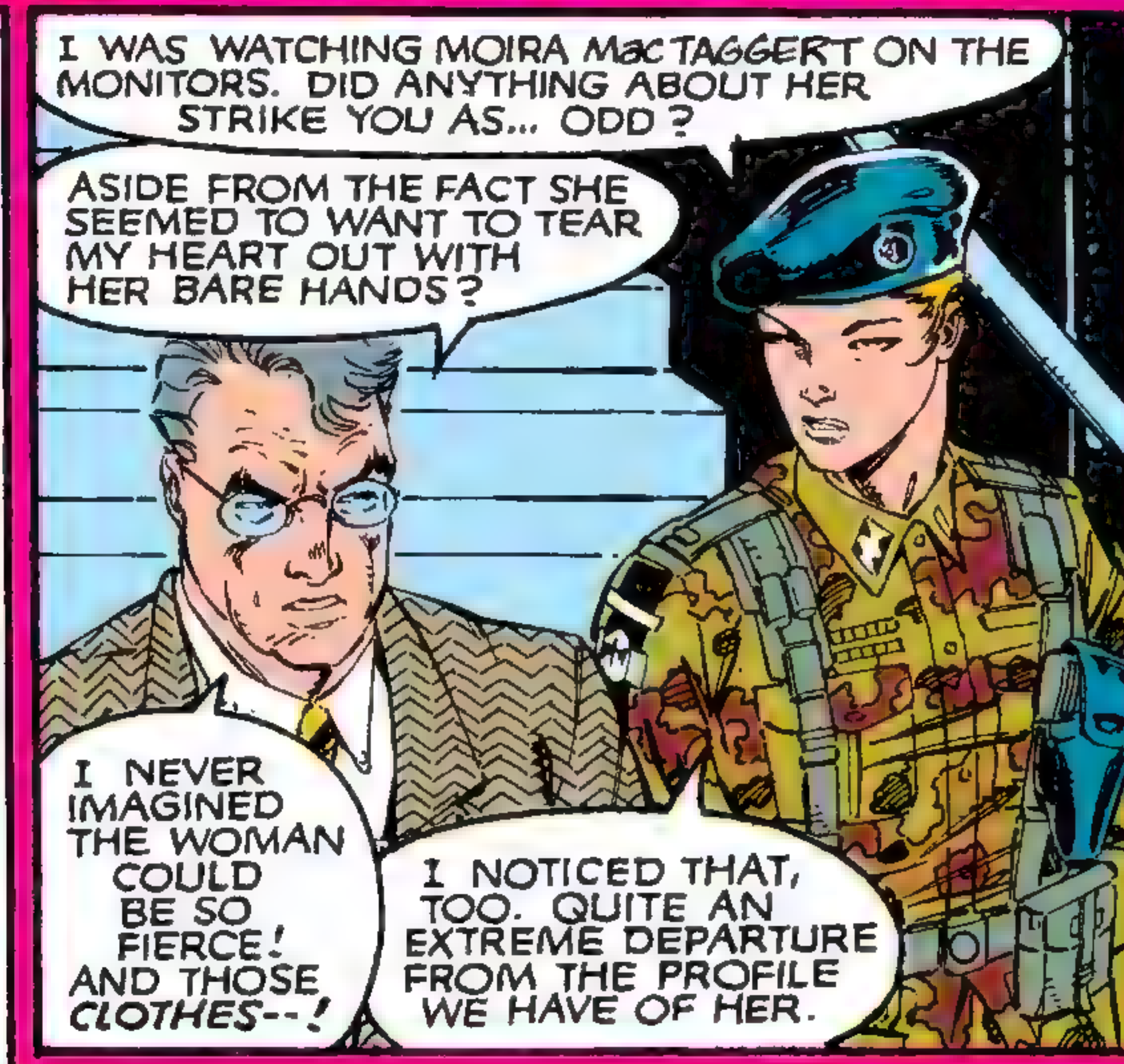
I'D RATHER BE IN MY LAB. OR BETTER YET, MY GARDEN.

BEEN SO LONG, IT SEEMS, THE FLOWERS ARE PROBABLY TOTALLY OVER-GROWN.

EVERY STRUGGLE DEMANDS ITS SACRIFICES.

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, CHIEF MAGISTRATE. BY PROFESSION, YOU'RE A SOLDIER.

THE PROBLEM IS, I'D RATHER BE A POLICEMAN.



I WAS WATCHING MOIRA Mac TAGGERT ON THE MONITORS. DID ANYTHING ABOUT HER STRIKE YOU AS... ODD?

ASIDE FROM THE FACT SHE SEEMED TO WANT TO TEAR MY HEART OUT WITH HER BARE HANDS?

I NEVER IMAGINED THE WOMAN COULD BE SO FIERCE! AND THOSE CLOTHES--!

I NOTICED THAT, TOO. QUITE AN EXTREME DEPARTURE FROM THE PROFILE WE HAVE OF HER.

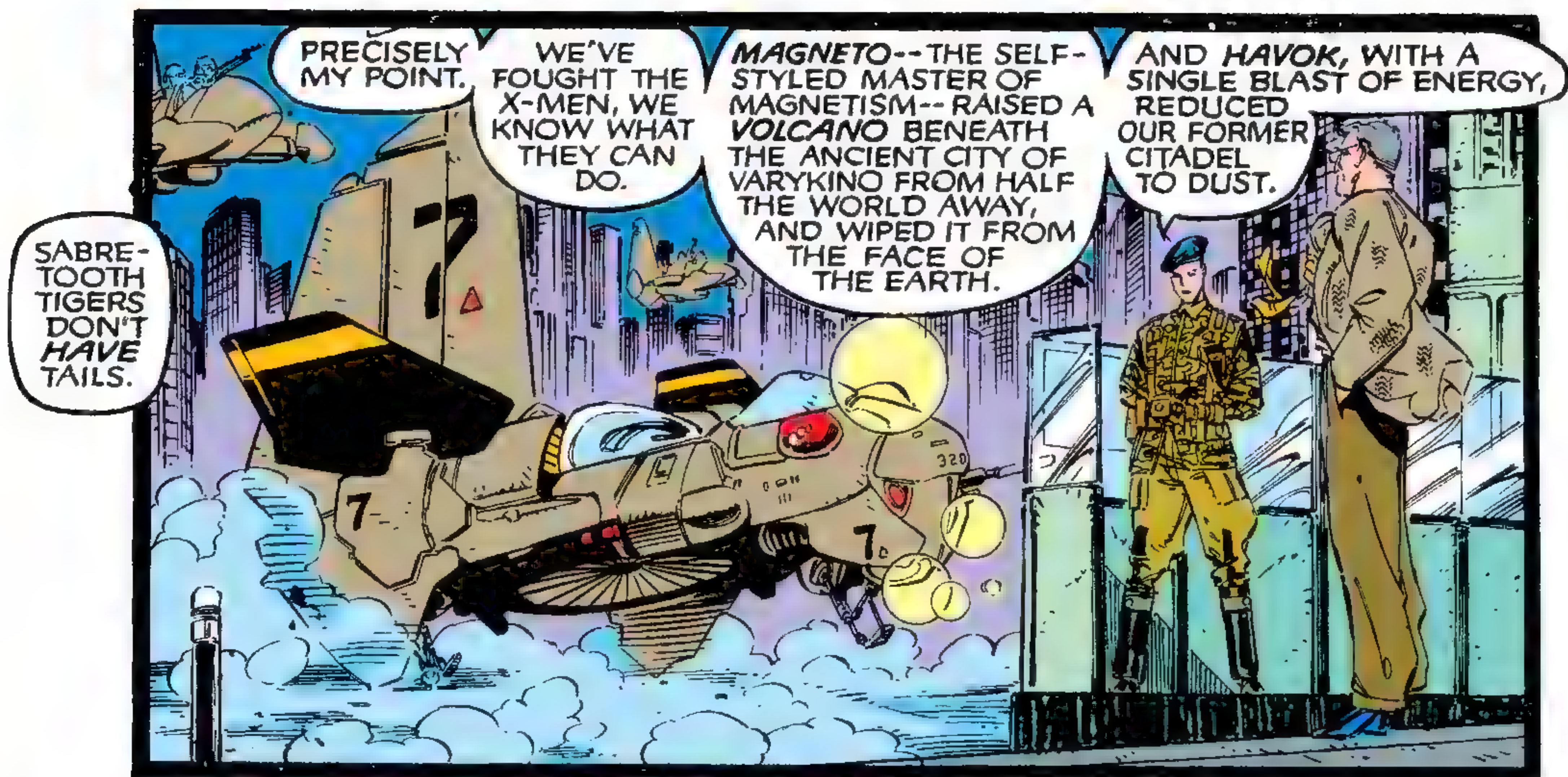


IF YOU THINK IT SIGNIFICANT, BY ALL MEANS CHECK IT OUT. FOR MYSELF, I DON'T CARE IF I NEVER SEE THAT HIGHLAND HARRIDAN AGAIN.

BY THE WAY, IS ALL THIS SECURITY FOR YOU OR FOR ME?

DAVID, I SUGGEST YOU THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID TO Mac TAGGERT.

SEIZING THESE CHILDREN IS VERY MUCH AKIN TO GRABBING A SABRE-TOOTH TIGER BY THE TAIL!



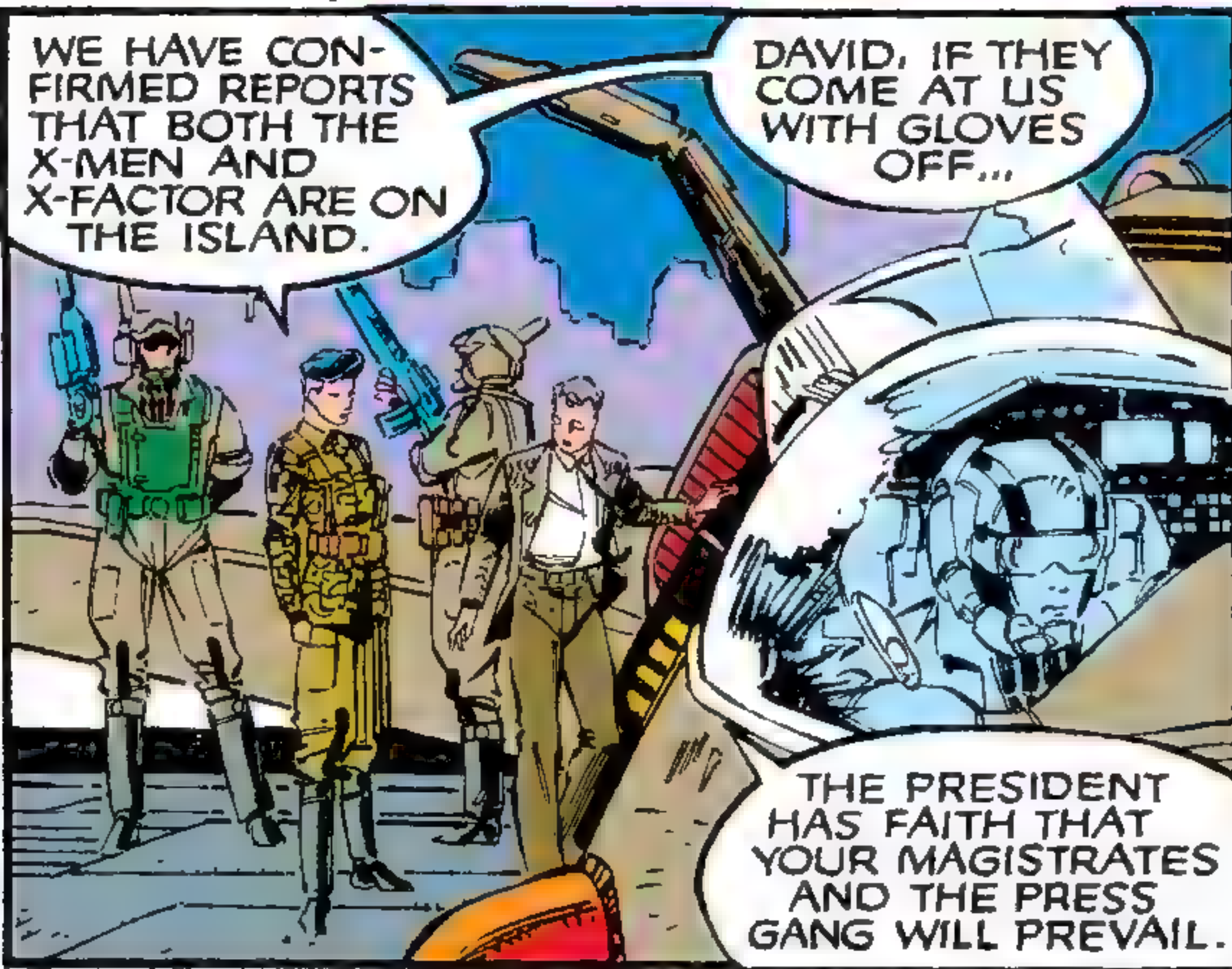
SABRE-TOOTH TIGERS DON'T HAVE TAILS.

PRECISELY MY POINT.

WE'VE FOUGHT THE X-MEN, WE KNOW WHAT THEY CAN DO.

MAGNETO--THE SELF-STYLED MASTER OF MAGNETISM--RAISED A VOLCANO BENEATH THE ANCIENT CITY OF VARYKINO FROM HALF THE WORLD AWAY, AND WIPED IT FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

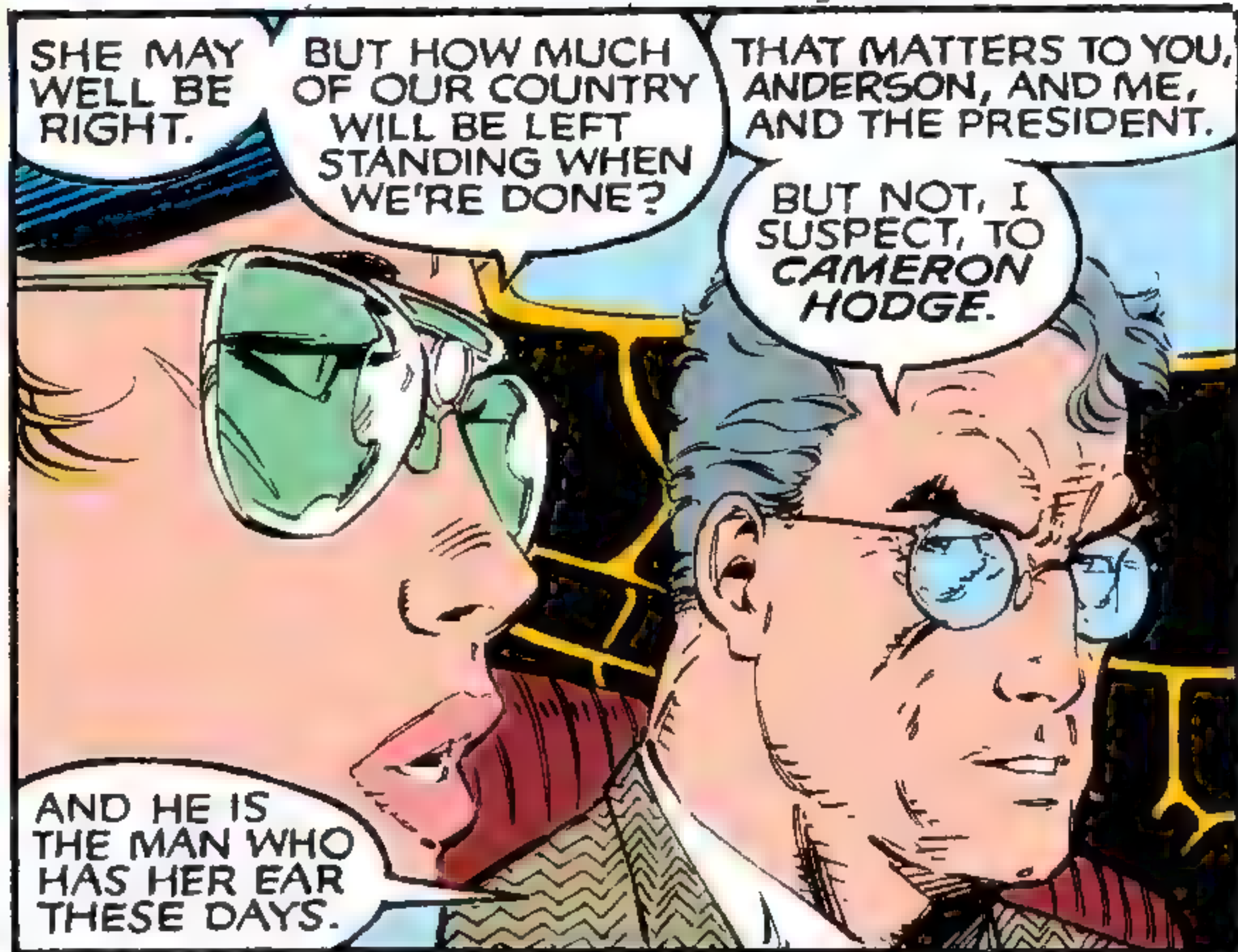
AND HAVOK, WITH A SINGLE BLAST OF ENERGY, REDUCED OUR FORMER CITADEL TO DUST.



WE HAVE CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT BOTH THE X-MEN AND X-FACTOR ARE ON THE ISLAND.

DAVID, IF THEY COME AT US WITH GLOVES OFF...

THE PRESIDENT HAS FAITH THAT YOUR MAGISTRATES AND THE PRESS GANG WILL PREVAIL.



SHE MAY WELL BE RIGHT.

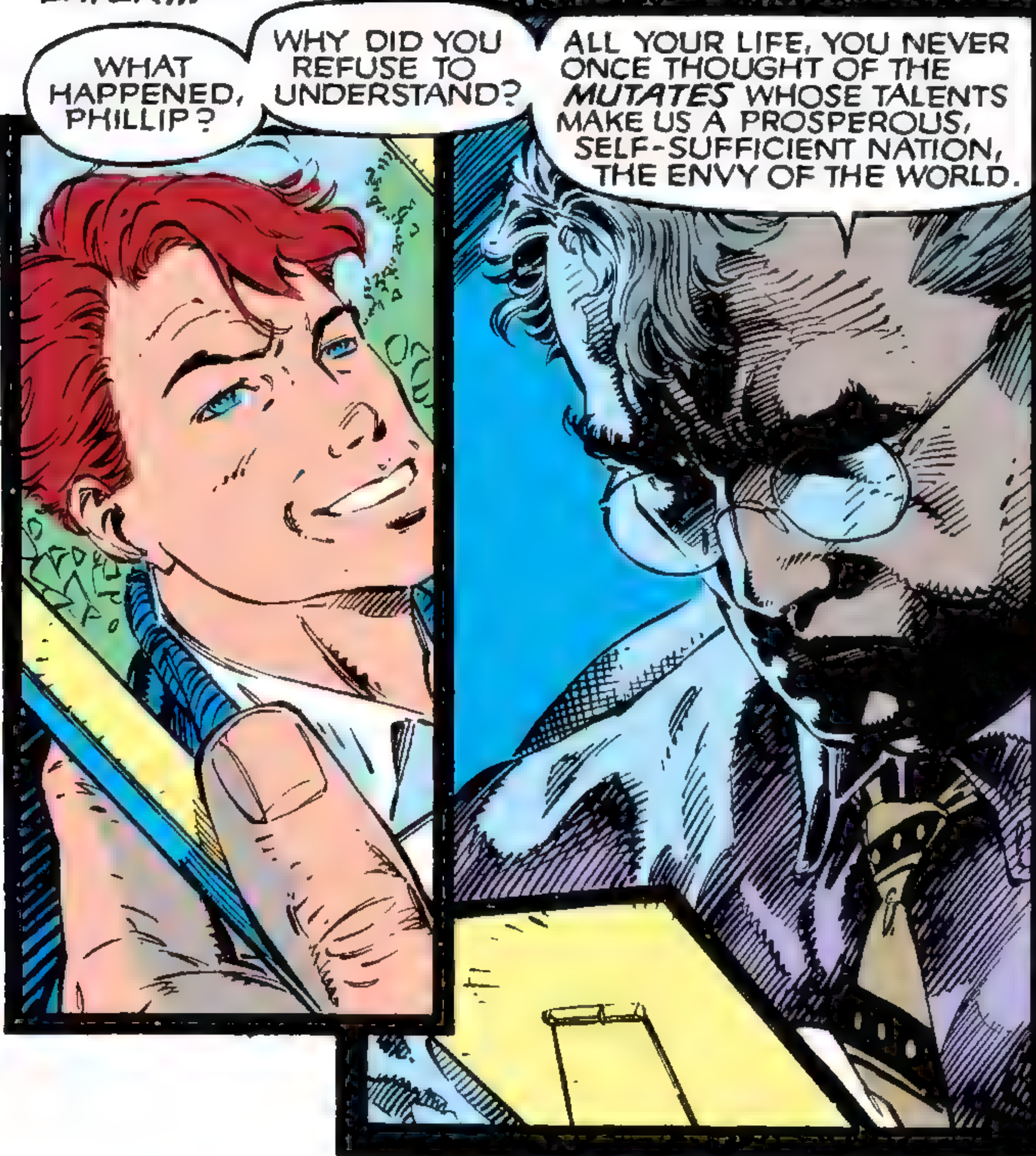
BUT HOW MUCH OF OUR COUNTRY WILL BE LEFT STANDING WHEN WE'RE DONE?

THAT MATTERS TO YOU, ANDERSON, AND ME, AND THE PRESIDENT.

BUT NOT, I SUSPECT, TO CAMERON HODGE.

AND HE IS THE MAN WHO HAS HER EAR THESE DAYS.

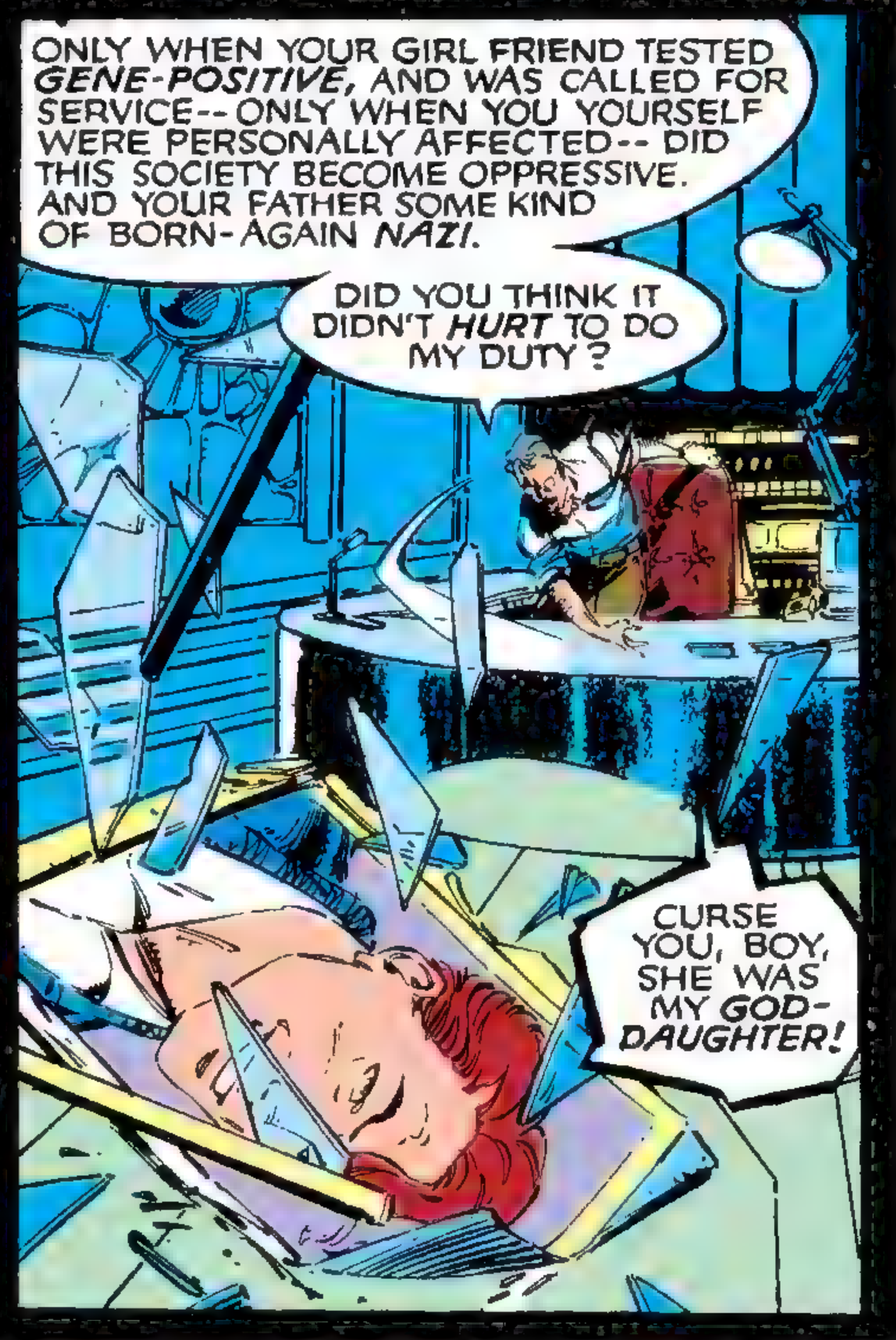
LATER...



WHAT HAPPENED, PHILLIP?

WHY DID YOU REFUSE TO UNDERSTAND?

ALL YOUR LIFE, YOU NEVER ONCE THOUGHT OF THE *MUTATES* WHOSE TALENTS MAKE US A PROSPEROUS, SELF-SUFFICIENT NATION, THE ENVY OF THE WORLD.

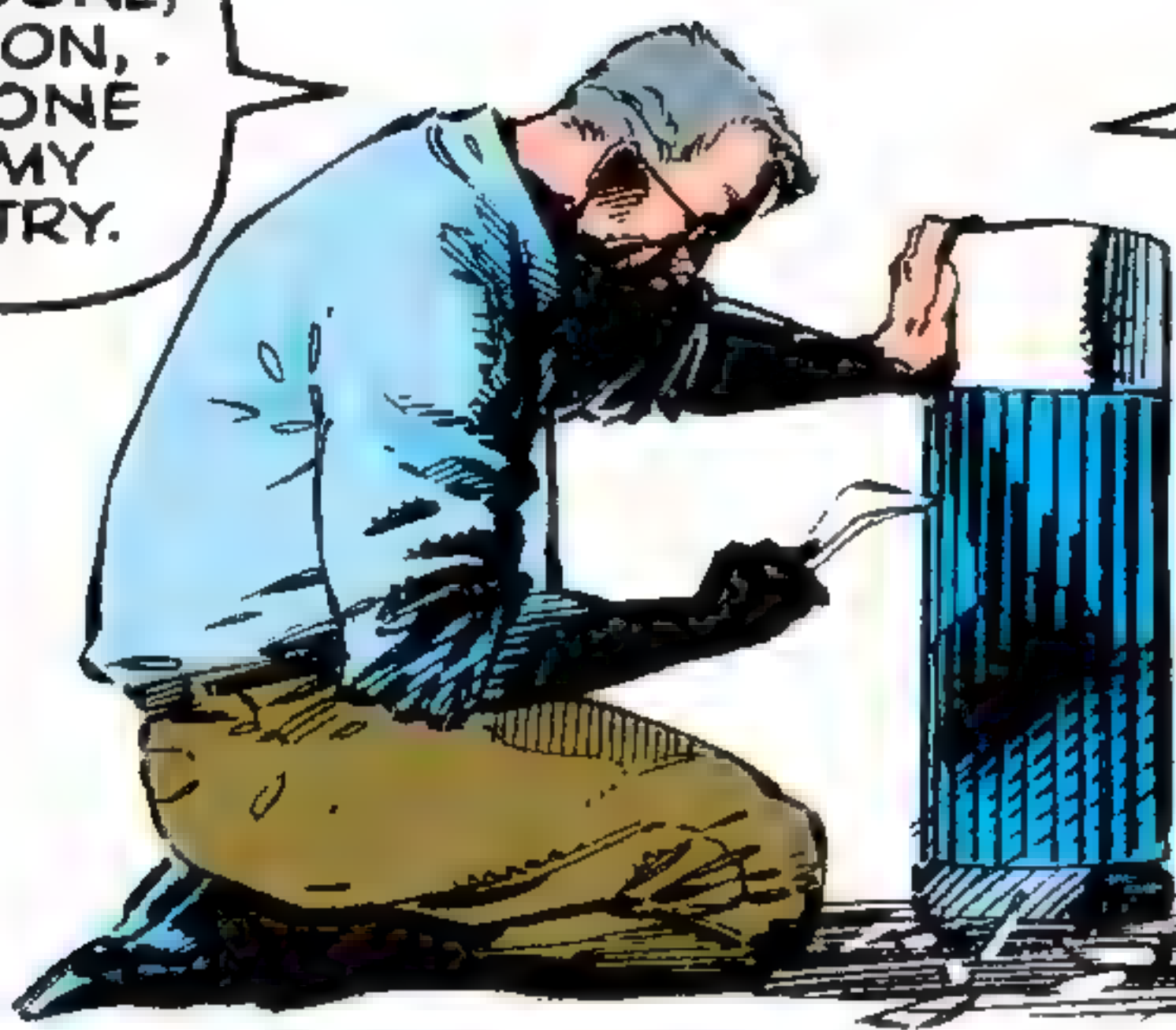


ONLY WHEN YOUR GIRL FRIEND TESTED *GENE-POSITIVE*, AND WAS CALLED FOR SERVICE-- ONLY WHEN YOU YOURSELF WERE PERSONALLY AFFECTED-- DID THIS SOCIETY BECOME OPPRESSIVE. AND YOUR FATHER SOME KIND OF BORN-AGAIN NAZI.

DID YOU THINK IT DIDN'T HURT TO DO MY DUTY?

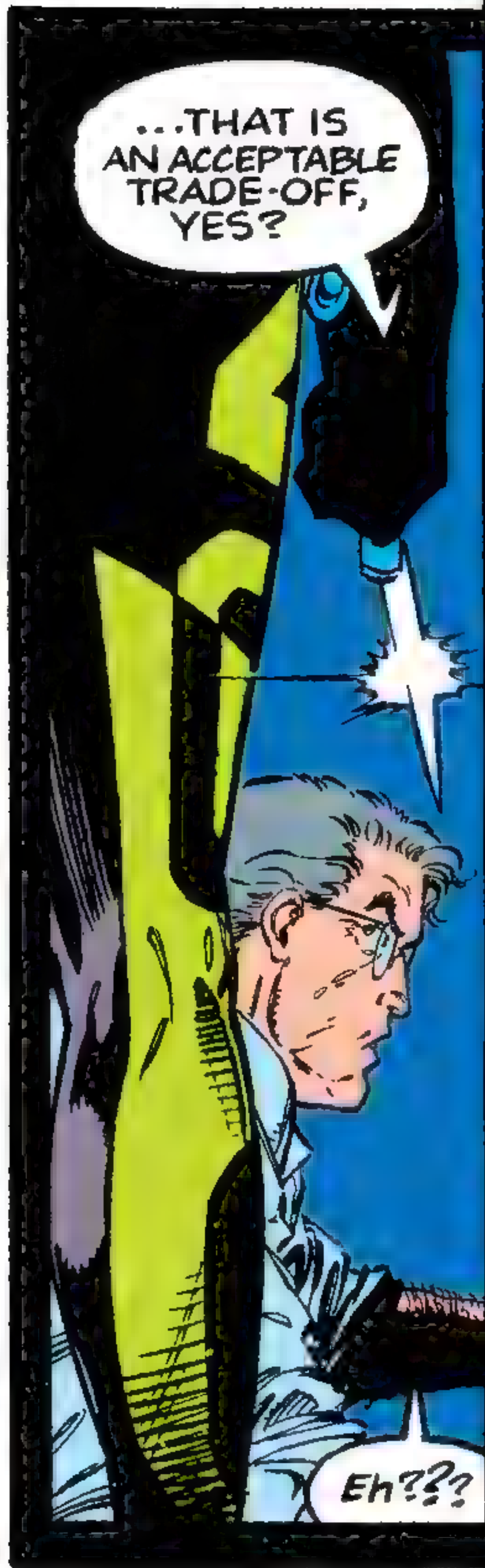
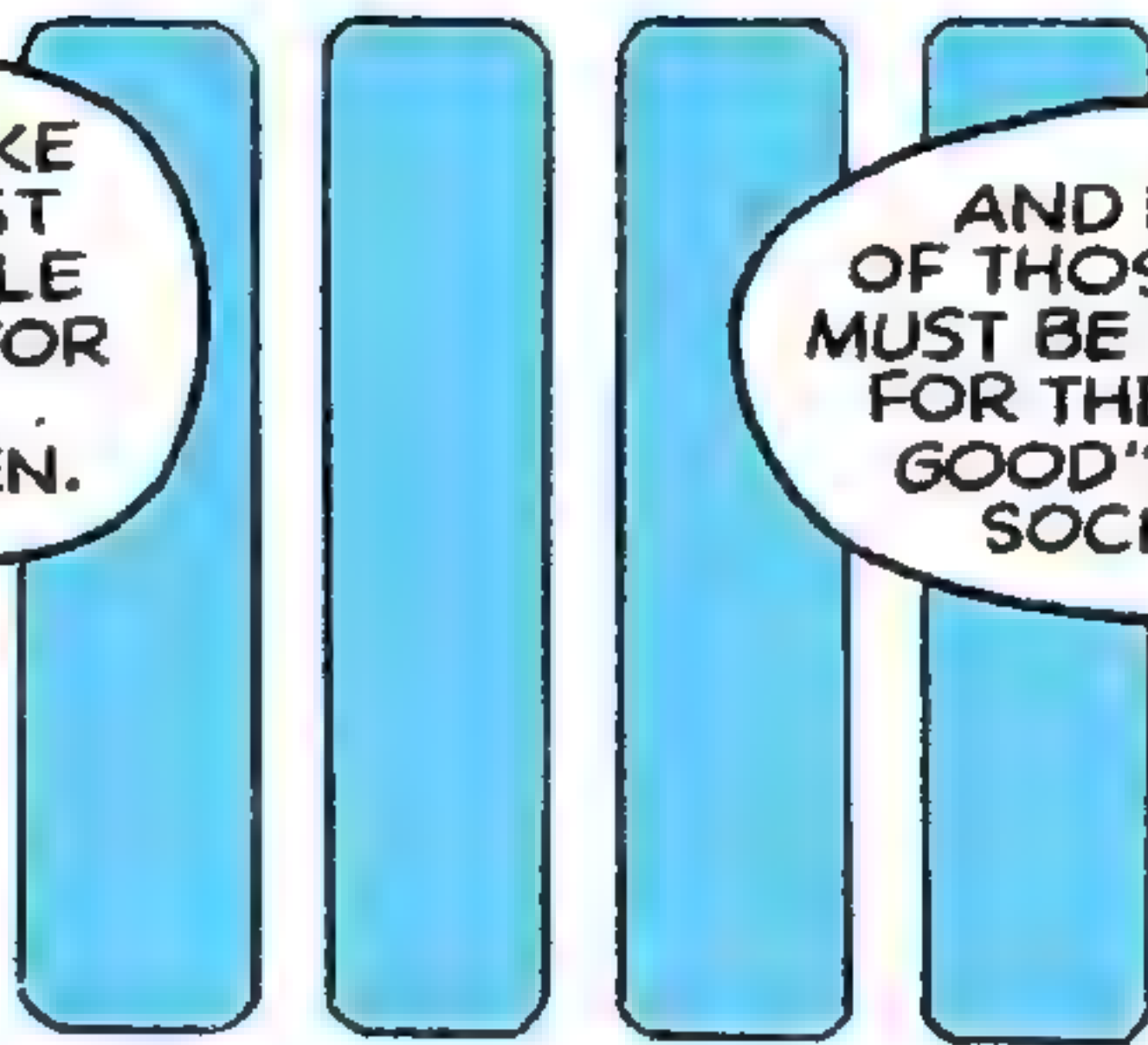
CURSE YOU, BOY, SHE WAS MY GOD-DAUGHTER!

ALL I'VE DONE, MY SON, I'VE DONE FOR MY COUNTRY.



TO MAKE THE BEST POSSIBLE FUTURE FOR ITS CHILDREN.

AND IF SOME OF THOSE CHILDREN MUST BE SACRIFICED, FOR THE "GREATER GOOD" OF THAT SOCIETY...



...THAT IS AN ACCEPTABLE TRADE-OFF, YES?

Eh???



HOW IRONIC THAT I SEE THIS SITUATION...

...IN PRECISELY THE SAME WAY.

WHATEVER HAPPENS TO ME, MOREAU, AT LEAST GENOSHA'S **GENEENGINEER** WILL NO LONGER CREATE ANY MORE MUTATES.

STORM!?!



I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY, STORM! IT'S HODGE!

IF HE HAS HIS WAY, EVERY PERSON ON THIS ISLAND, ON THE ENTIRE PLANET WITH EVEN A TRACE OF MUTANCY IN THEIR GENES WILL BE SLAIN!

WHATEVER YOU THINK OF ME, MY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO MY COUNTRY AND ITS WELFARE. I HAVE NO AGENDA BEYOND GENOSHAN BORDERS. LEAVE US ALONE, WE'LL DO THE SAME TO YOU.

IT WAS HODGE WHO PROPOSED THE ATTACK ON YOUR TEAM, IT'S HODGE WHO'S PUSHING THIS WHOLE MAD SCHEME--

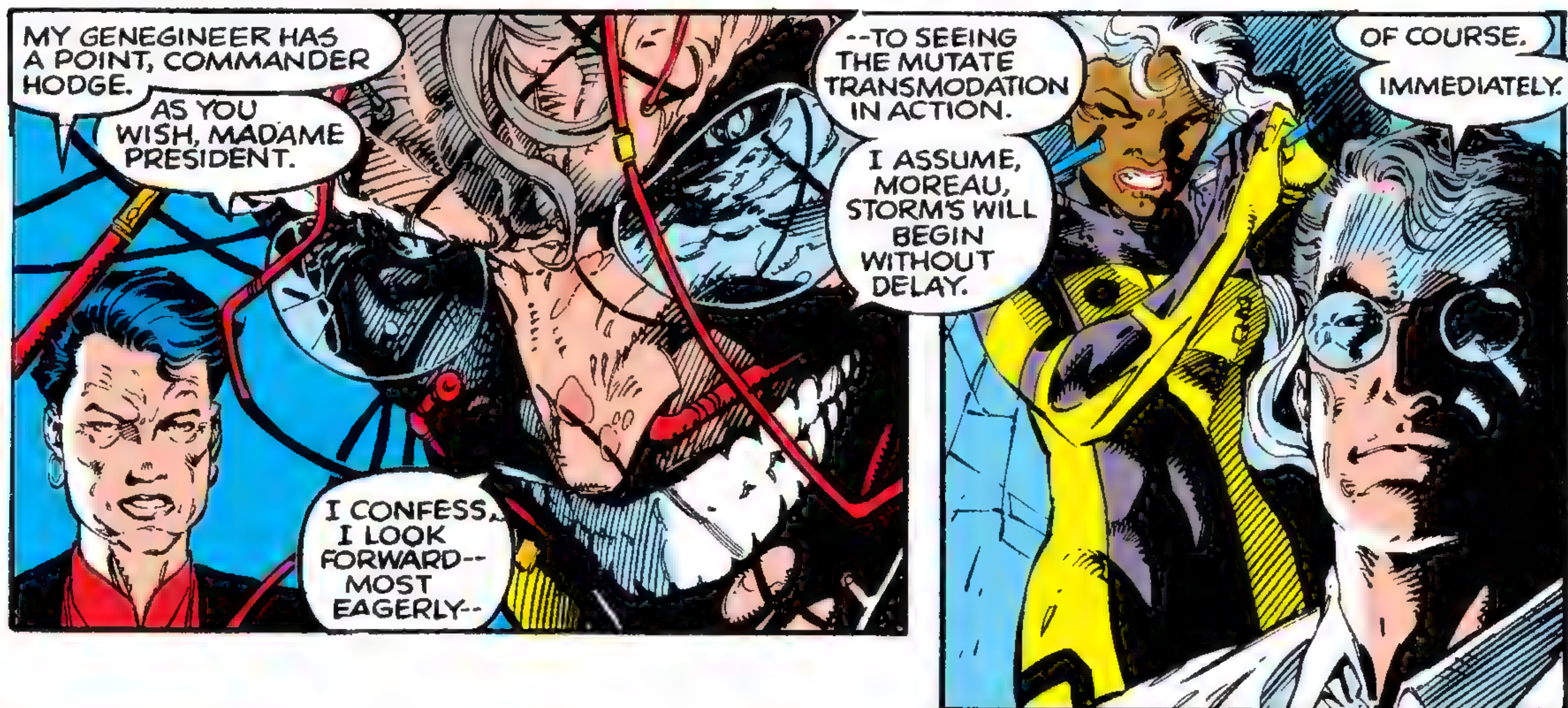
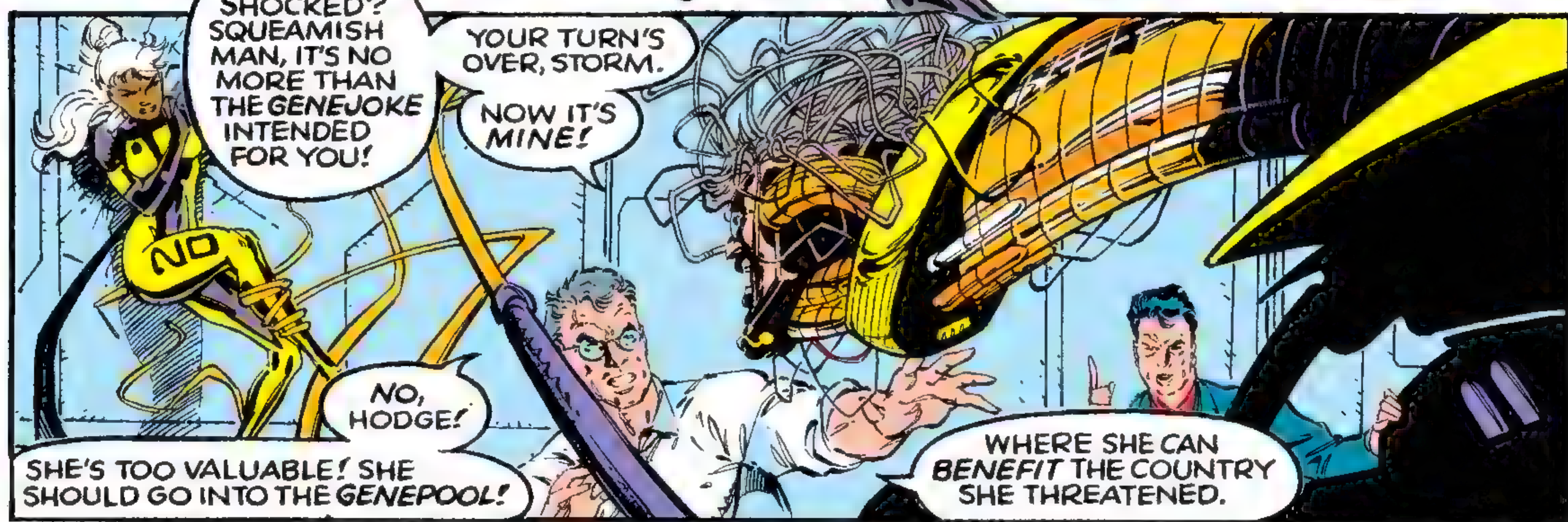
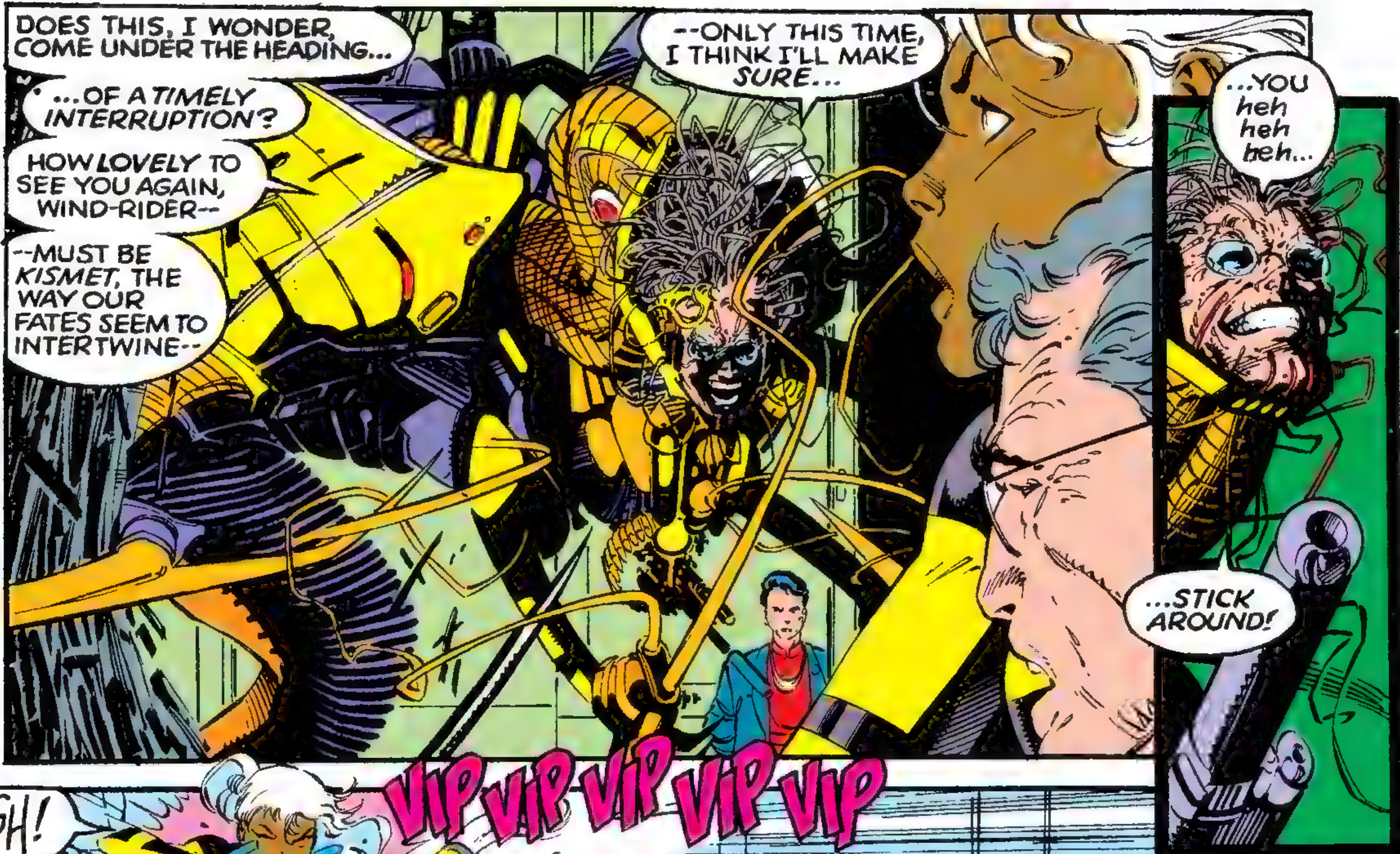
SO, MUST I THEN CHOOSE BETWEEN THE LESSER OF TWO DEVILS?

IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE, AND MINE, AS WELL.



WELL
WELL WELL
WELL
WELL!

WHAT PRAY TELL DO WE HAVE HERE?!



MEANWHILE...

... APPROACHING
THE CITADEL
OVER DOWNTOWN
HAMMER BAY...

YOU GONNA
GIVE ME
GRIEF NOW,
WOMAN?

THE CHILD
MAKES SENSE.

SO?

SOMEHOW,
LOGAN,
I NEVER
IMAGINED
YOU PLAYING
THE MARTYR.

THOUGHT YOU
KNEW ME
BETTER,
BETTS.

I HARDLY
KNOW MYSELF
ANYMORE, MY
FRIEND-- OR
RECOGNIZE THE
WOMAN I BEHOLD
IN EVERY
REFLECTION.

NOPE.

ONE DAY
I DIDN'T
HAVE 'EM,
NEXT I
DID.

I MADE
ADJUST-
MENTS.
LIFE
WENT ON.
THAT WAS
THE END
OF IT.

DOES IT EVER
BOTHER YOU, HOW
YOUR ADAMANTIUM
CLAWS AND UNBREAK-
ABLE CLAWS CAME
TO BE?

FOR ME,
DARLIN',
WHAT IS, IS.
I GOT NO
INTEREST IN
PONDERIN'
THE 'WHY'
O' THINGS.

BUT EVERY LIFE HAS
ITS OBLIGATIONS. I
JUST WANT TO SETTLE
MINE WHILE I'M
STILL ABLE.

AN' TOP O' THE LIST IS
WHAT I OWE THE X--

BETSY!

YOU
REALIZE
THIS IS THE
OLDEST
TRICK IN
THE BOOK.

ALWAYS
WORKS
FOR ME,
BETTS.

OH.
JOY.

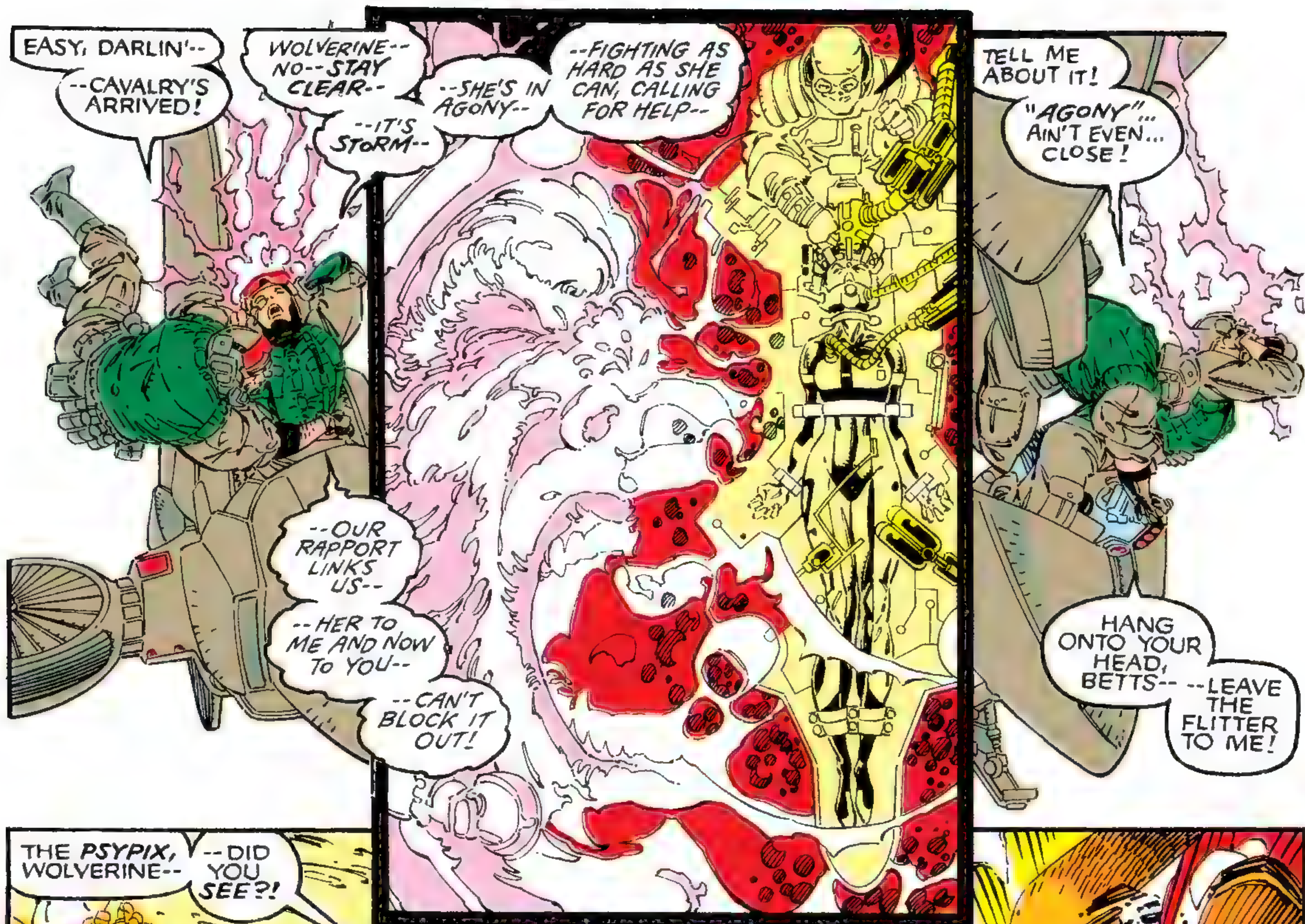
NO
PHYSICAL
THREAT IN
SIGHT.

PSYCHIC
ATTACK,
THEN.

MUST BE PRETTY
NASTY TO PUNCH
PAST HER
DEFENSES--

--HARD ENOUGH
TO TRIGGER THAT
KIND'A SCREAM!

HER FLITTER'S
OUTTA CONTROL!



EASY, DARLIN'--
--CAVALRY'S
ARRIVED!

WOLVERINE--
NO--STAY
CLEAR--
--IT'S
STORM--

--FIGHTING AS
HARD AS SHE
CAN, CALLING
FOR HELP--
--SHE'S IN
AGONY--

TELL ME
ABOUT IT!

"AGONY"
AIN'T EVEN...
CLOSE!

--OUR
RAPPORT
LINKS
US--

--HER TO
ME AND NOW
TO YOU--

--CAN'T
BLOCK IT
OUT!

HANG
ONTO YOUR
HEAD,
BETTS--

--LEAVE
THE
FLITTER
TO ME!



THE PSYPIX,
WOLVERINE--
--DID YOU
SEE?!

ALL TOO
CLEAR--

--HANG ON,
DARLIN', THIS
LANDING'S
GONNA BE
AS ROUGH
AS IT IS
UGLY--

--THEY'RE STARTIN'
TO TRANSFORM
HER INTO A
MUTATE-SLAVE!



RESCUE!

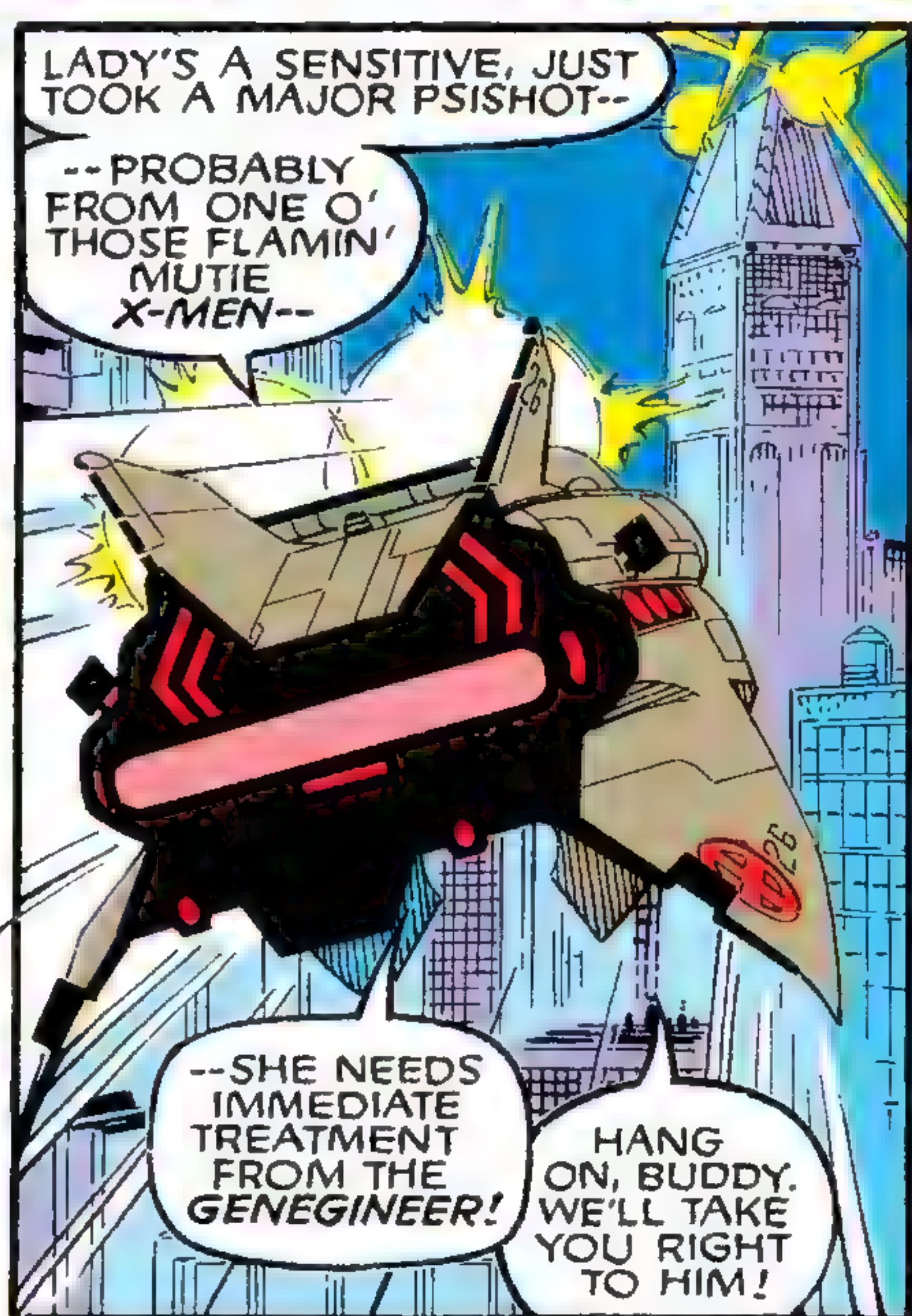
ON THE
DOUBLE, YOU
GUYS--

-- I GOT
AN OFFICER
DOWN AN'
HURT
HERE!

MAKE IT LOOK
GOOD, BETTS.

HAVE
NO
FEAR.

THIS
WON'T
REQUIRE
MUCH OF
AN ACT.

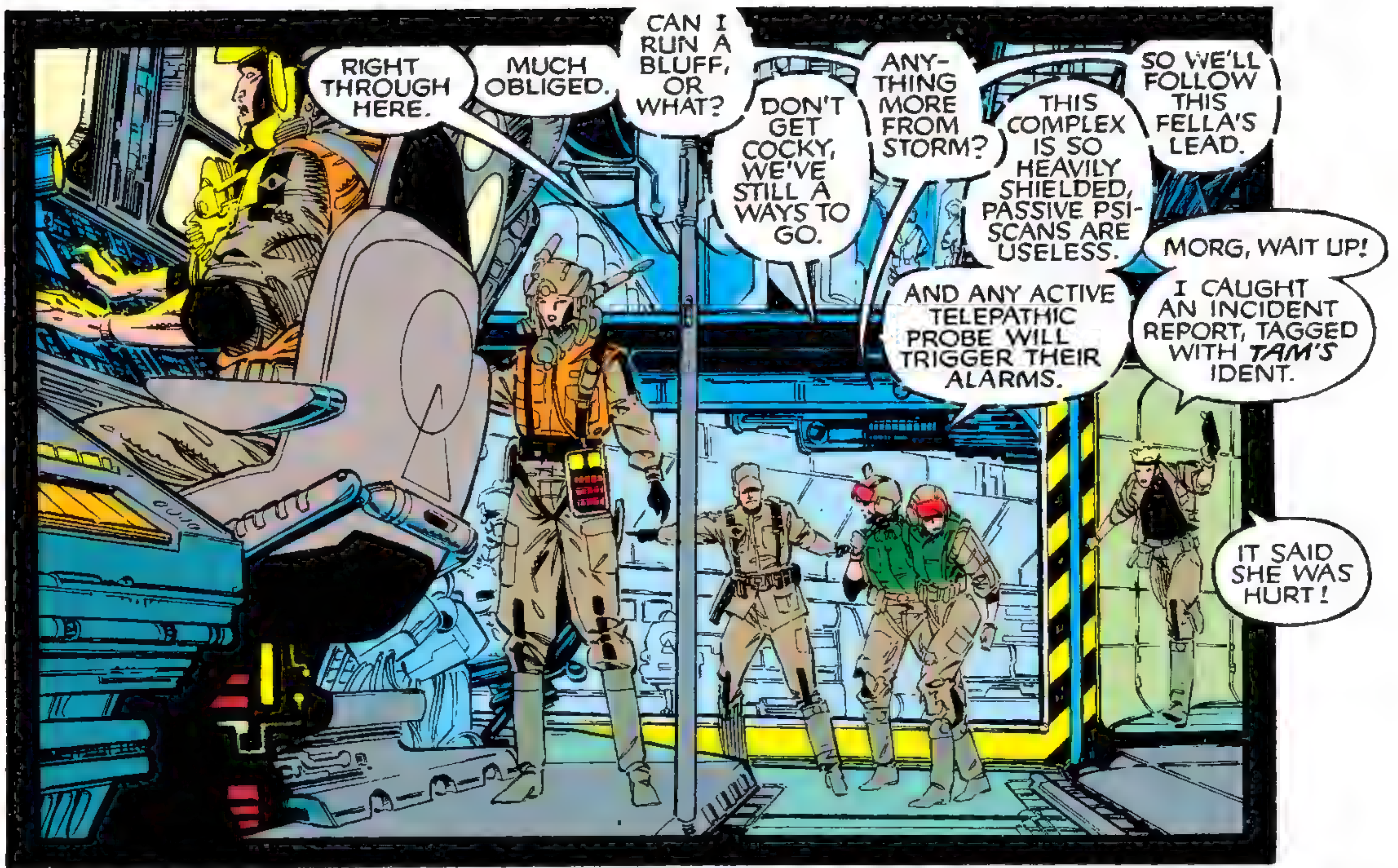


LADY'S A SENSITIVE, JUST
TOOK A MAJOR PSISHOT--

--PROBABLY
FROM ONE O'
THOSE FLAMIN'
MUTIE
X-MEN--

--SHE NEEDS
IMMEDIATE
TREATMENT
FROM THE
GENEENGINEER!

HANG
ON, BUDDY.
WE'LL TAKE
YOU RIGHT
TO HIM!



RIGHT THROUGH HERE.

MUCH OBLIGED.

CAN I RUN A BLUFF, OR WHAT?

DON'T GET COCKY, WE'VE STILL A WAYS TO GO.

ANYTHING MORE FROM STORM?

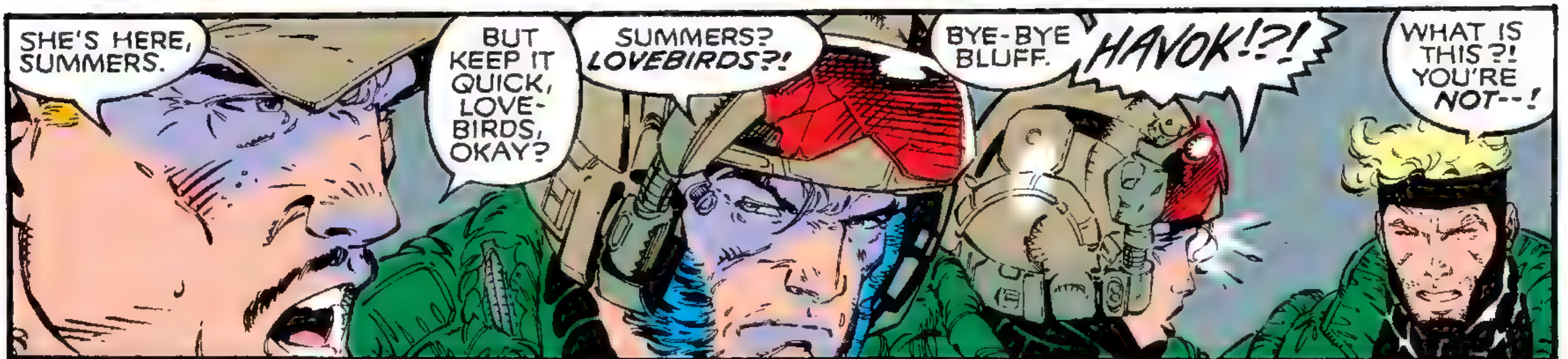
THIS COMPLEX IS SO HEAVILY SHIELDED, PASSIVE PSI-SCANS ARE USELESS.

SO WE'LL FOLLOW THIS FELLA'S LEAD.

AND ANY ACTIVE TELEPATHIC PROBE WILL TRIGGER THEIR ALARMS.

MORG, WAIT UP!
I CAUGHT AN INCIDENT REPORT, TAGGED WITH *TAM'S* IDENT.

IT SAID SHE WAS HURT!



SHE'S HERE, SUMMERS.

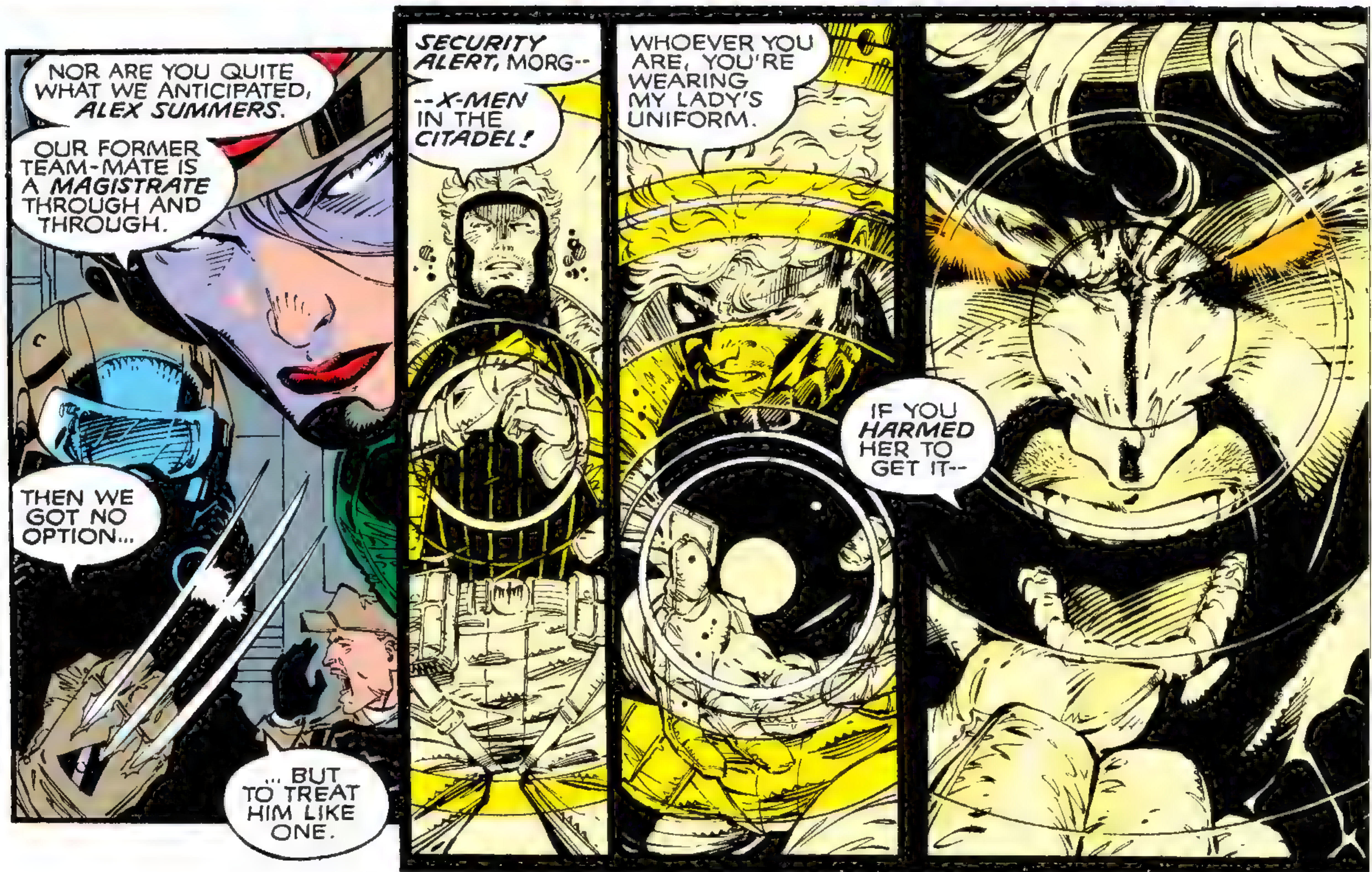
BUT KEEP IT QUICK, LOVE-BIRDS, OKAY?

SUMMERS? LOVEBIRDS?!

BYE-BYE BLUFF.

HAVOK!?!?

WHAT IS THIS?! YOU'RE NOT--!



NOR ARE YOU QUITE WHAT WE ANTICIPATED, *ALEX SUMMERS*.

OUR FORMER TEAM-MATE IS A *MAGISTRATE* THROUGH AND THROUGH.

THEN WE GOT NO OPTION...

... BUT TO TREAT HIM LIKE ONE.

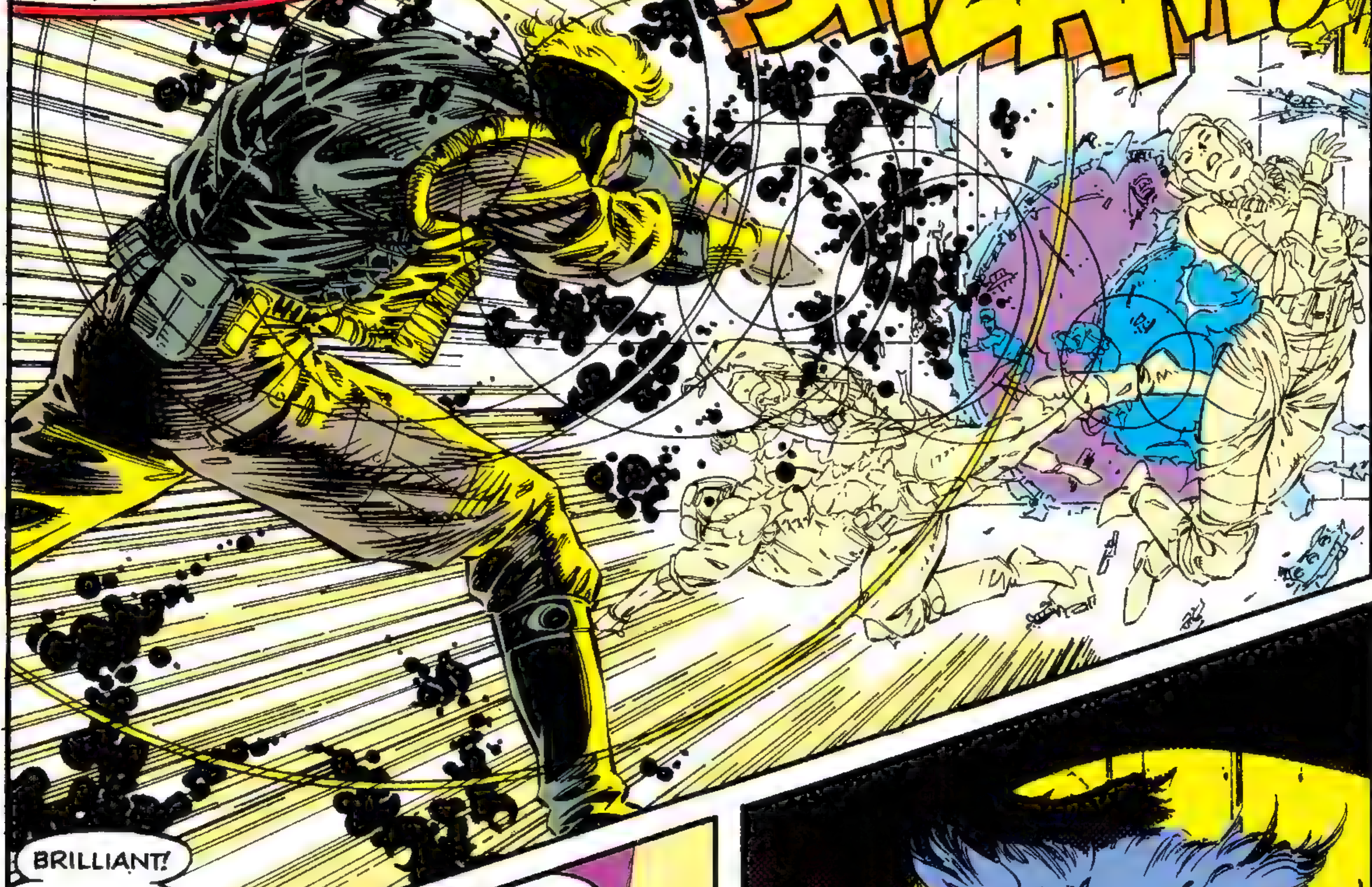
SECURITY ALERT, MORG--
--X-MEN IN THE CITADEL!

WHOEVER YOU ARE, YOU'RE WEARING MY LADY'S UNIFORM.

IF YOU HARMED HER TO GET IT--

--I'LL MAKE YOU
PAY!

SHAZAM!



BRILLIANT!

SUMMERS
TOOK OUT A
MAIN POWER
COUPLING
WITH THAT
BLAST!

THE
ENTIRE
SECTOR'S
DARK!

WHOSE
SIDE
IS HE
ON,
ANY-
WAY?!



INFRA-
RED
SCAN.

THREE-
MAN
TEAMS.

FULL
AUTOMAG,
SHOOT
TO KILL!

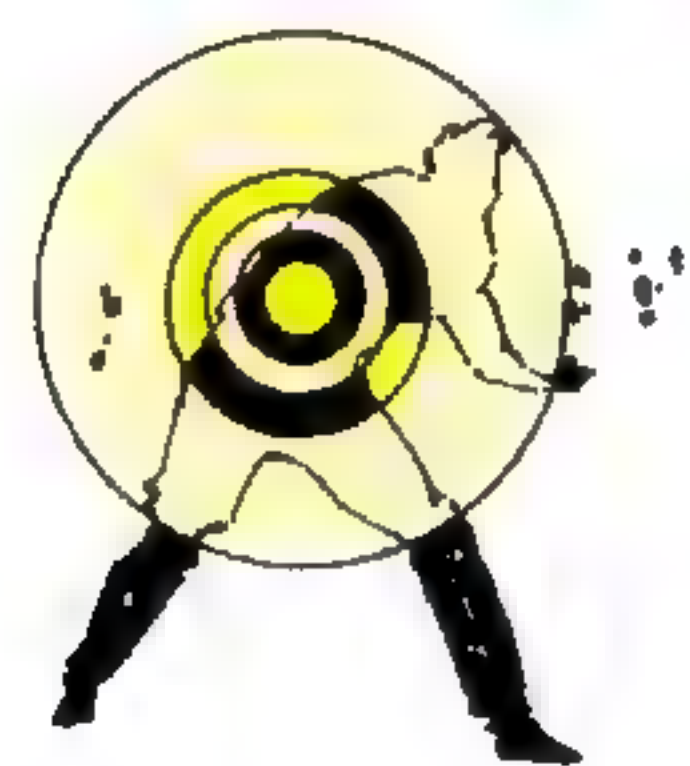


RIGHT
ORDERS.
SMART
MOVES.
YOU'RE
GOOD,
BUNKIES.



I'M
BETTER.

ESPECIALLY
WHEN I'M
MAD!





BETTER I HAD LET THE REAVERS SLAY HIM MONTHS AGO*...

...THAN SEND HIM THROUGH THE SIEGE PERILOUS TO BECOME THIS.

FIGURE YOUR PSYCHIC KNIFE SHOCKED SOME SENSE BACK INTO HIM?

*IN X-MEN #251 -- Bob.



IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW.

IT DEPENDS ON HOW FIRMLY HE HAS EMBRACED THIS NEW REALITY.

DO YOU HAVE ANY TRACE OF STORM'S SCENT?

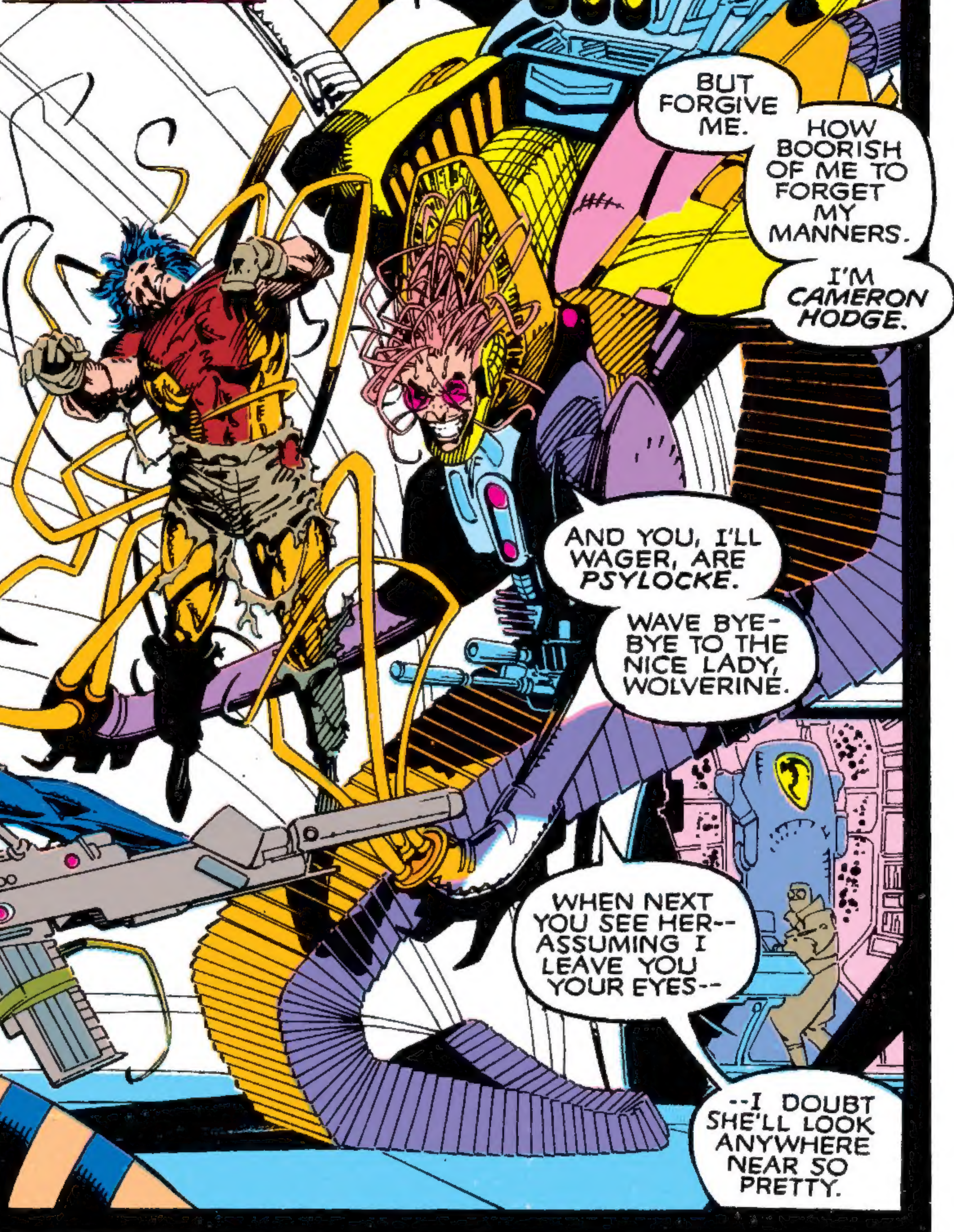


WOLVERINE!

NO NEED TO BOTHER THE BOUNCING BERSERKER ABOUT THAT, MY DEAR.

AS YOU CAN SEE, HE'S OTHERWISE OCCUPIED.

I'LL BE MORE THAN DELIGHTED TO ANSWER FOR HIM.



BUT FORGIVE ME.

HOW BOORISH OF ME TO FORGET MY MANNERS.

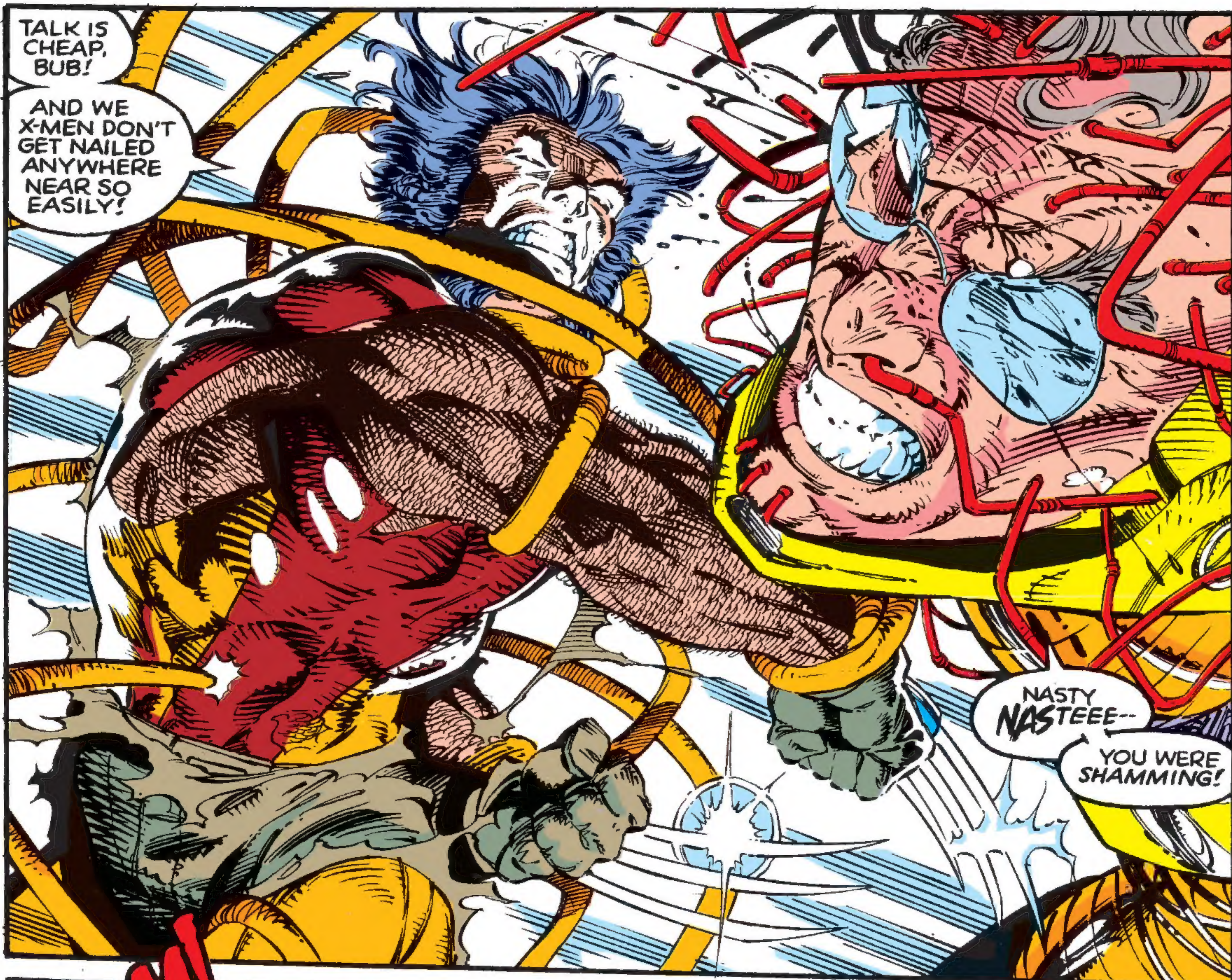
I'M CAMERON HODGE.

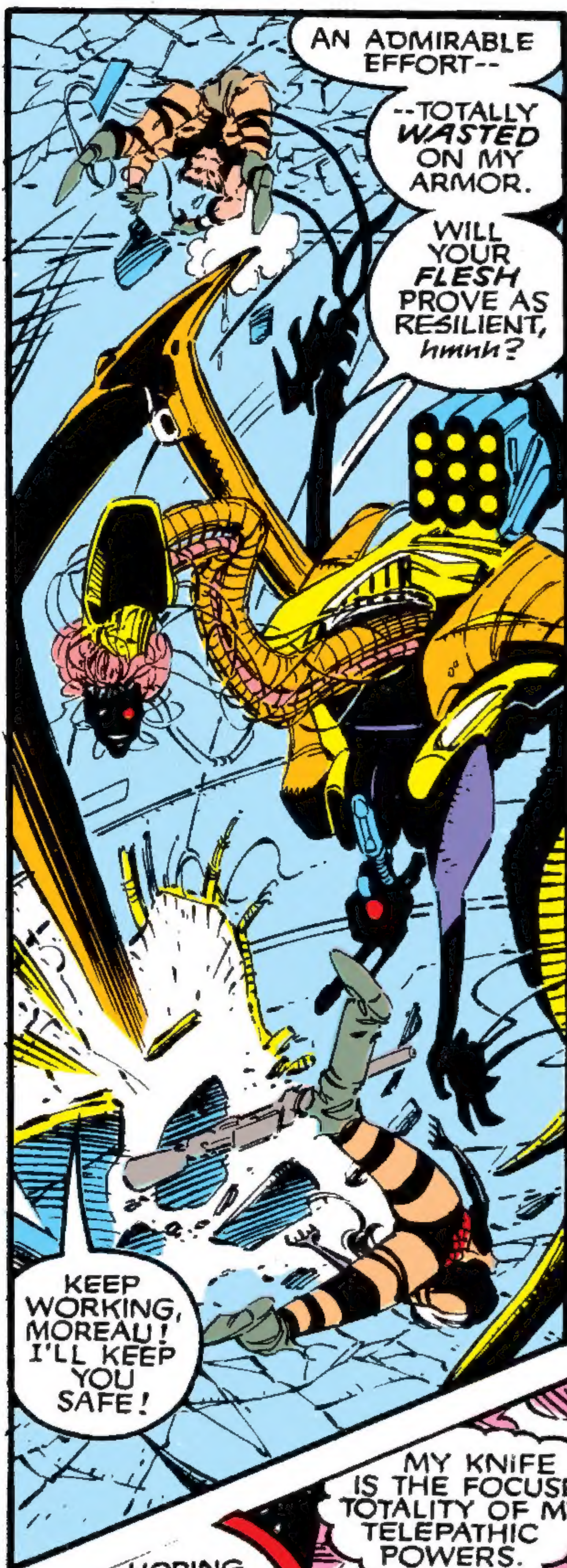
AND YOU, I'LL WAGER, ARE PSYLOCKE.

WAVE BYE-BYE TO THE NICE LADY, WOLVERINE.

WHEN NEXT YOU SEE HER-- ASSUMING I LEAVE YOU YOUR EYES--

--I DOUBT SHE'LL LOOK ANYWHERE NEAR SO PRETTY.



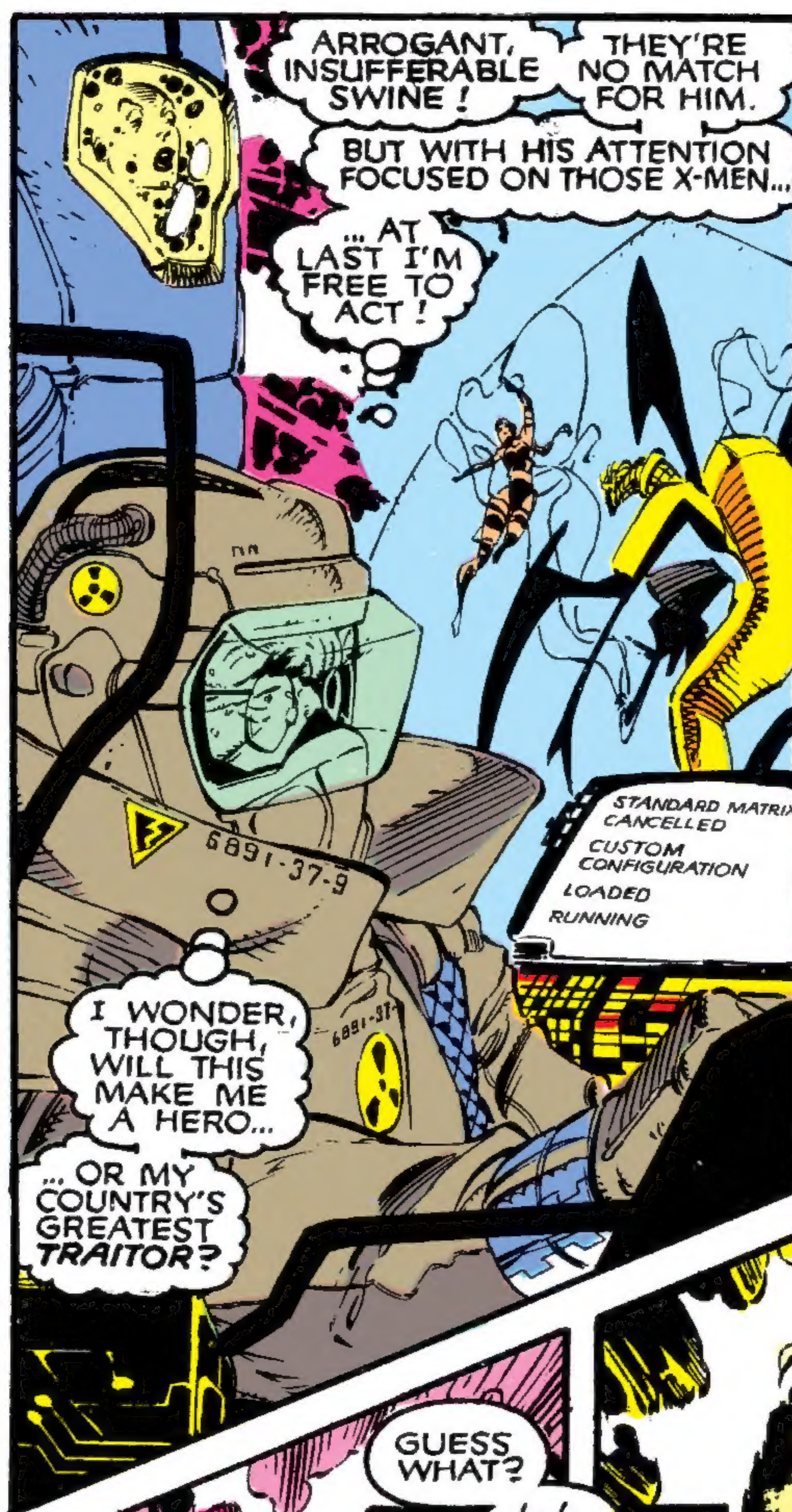


AN ADMIRABLE EFFORT--

--TOTALLY WASTED ON MY ARMOR.

WILL YOUR FLESH PROVE AS RESILIENT, *hmmh?*

KEEP WORKING, MOREAU! I'LL KEEP YOU SAFE!



ARROGANT, INSUFFERABLE SWINE!

THEY'RE NO MATCH FOR HIM.

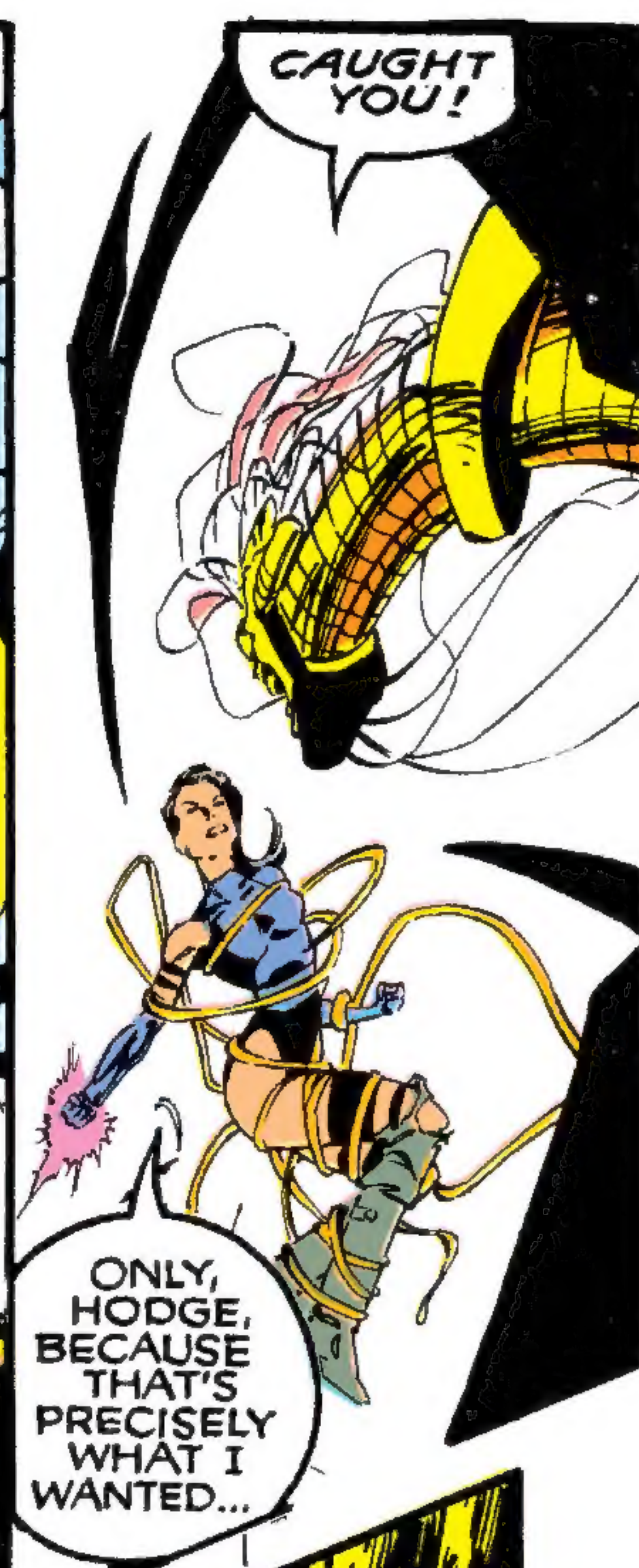
BUT WITH HIS ATTENTION FOCUSED ON THOSE X-MEN...

... AT LAST I'M FREE TO ACT!

I WONDER, THOUGH, WILL THIS MAKE ME A HERO...

... OR MY COUNTRY'S GREATEST TRAITOR?

STANDARD MATRIX CANCELLED
CUSTOM CONFIGURATION LOADED
RUNNING



CAUGHT YOU!

ONLY, HODGE, BECAUSE THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT I WANTED...

...HOPING YOU'D BRING ME CLOSE ENOUGH TO STRIKE!

MY KNIFE IS THE FOCUSED TOTALITY OF MY TELEPATHIC POWERS.

NORMALLY, I USE IT ONLY TO SHOCK.

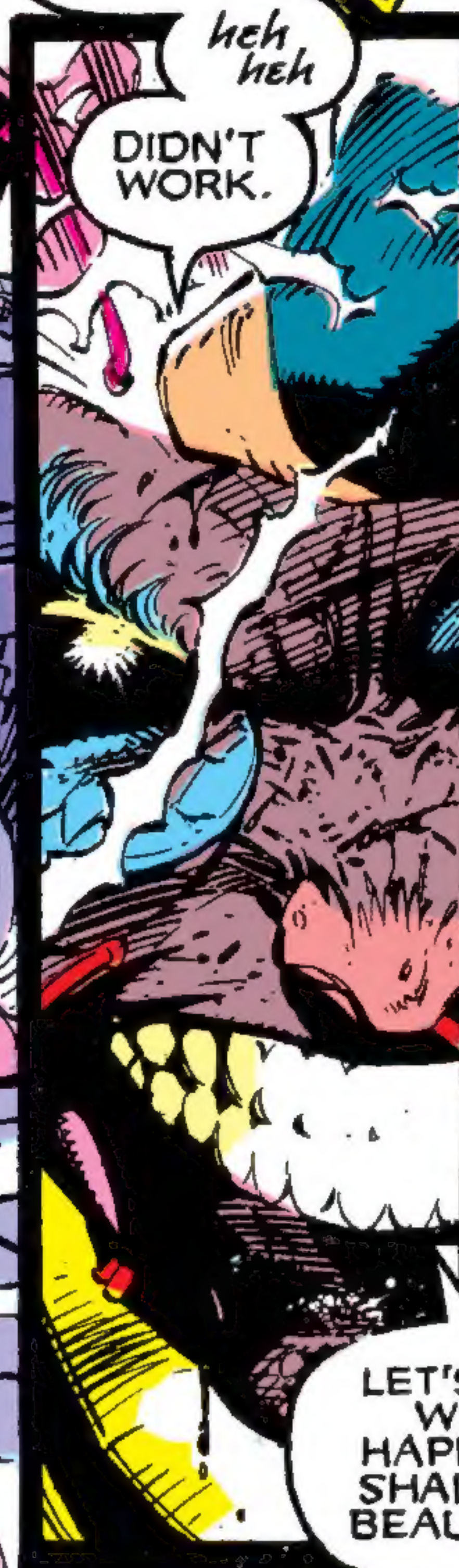
BUT WITH HODGE, I SEE NO ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE...

... BUT TO KILL!

GUESS WHAT?

heh heh

DIDN'T WORK.



LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS, SHALL WE, BEAUTIFUL...

... WHEN I DO THE SAME TO YOU!

ARRRR

HODGE--

--IF YOU'RE INTERESTED--

--THE MATRIX IS LOCKED...

...THE TRANSMODE PROCESS, COMPLETE!

OPEN IT, MOREAU!

I WANT TO SEE--

--I WANT THESE X-MEN TO SEE--

--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THEIR BELOVED LEADER, STORM!

THAT NAME NO LONGER HAS MEANING...

...NOR DOES ANY FACET OF HER FORMER LIFE.

STORM IS NO MORE.

WHAT REMAINS IS MUTATE #20.

THAT TAKES CARE OF HER.

BUT WHATEVER, MY SWEETS, SHALL WE DO WITH YOU?

FIND OUT (SORT OF) IN NEW MUTANTS #96 AND X-FACTOR #61.

AND, IN 30 DAYS, THE X-MEN GO ON TRIAL FOR:
CAPITAL CRIMES!